

O LORD BE THOV MY  
KEEPER MERCIE AND  
PEACE BE IN THIS PLACE

1951

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HISTORICAL NOTES  
ON THE PARISH OF PARTNEY.





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PARTNEY VILLAGE.

# *HISTORICAL NOTES*

ON THE PARISH OF

## *PARTNEY,*

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BY

GILBERT GEORGE WALKER,

M.A. OXFORD,

RECTOR OF PARTNEY WITH DALBY,

SOMETIME VICAR OF HUTTOFT.

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"I hope you make what enquiries you can and write down what is told you. The little things which distinguish domestic character are soon forgotten : if you delay to enquire you will have no information : if you neglect to write, information will be in vain."—*Dr. Johnson's letter to Bennet Langton, on the death of Peregrine Langton of Partney.*

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## PREFACE.



I WOULD beg the intending reader of this little book to remember that it has been written by a country parson away from reference libraries, and that his first object in writing has been to rouse some interest amongst his parishioners for the past history of their parish. It is owing to the former of these facts that I have been unable to verify all my quotations, and to the latter that I have drawn my illustrations from neighbouring and familiar places, and have felt it necessary to put in some things about which the reader perhaps feels himself already sufficiently well informed. As a basis for my Notes I took the chapter on Partney in Oldfield's *History of Wainfleet*, published in 1829, and Bishop Trollope's Paper read before the Lincolnshire Archæological Society in 1865. As far as possible I have tested the value of the statements

made, by reference to the authorities quoted, and amplified what had been written. I have also made use of various scraps of information given in the volumes of *Lincolnshire Notes & Queries*, and in numerous other books. I believe that in every case I have made an acknowledgment in a footnote. Especially I have to thank personal friends for much valuable help :—my predecessor, the Rev. J. W. Bayldon, M.A., now Rector of Low Teynton near Horncastle, for permission to utilise the information he had gathered about the past history of the parish during his 19 years' residence here ; this he has in the main preserved on blank pages of the parish registers, and future generations of parishioners will never fail to appreciate his most judicious labours in this direction ;—the Rev. A. R. Maddison, M.A., F.S.A., Priest Vicar of Lincoln Cathedral, who supplied me with a list of the early Rectors, and gave me many extracts from Wills and much other valuable information ;—my brother, Mr. T. Hollis Walker, Barrister at law, who has very kindly verified many references for me in the Library of the Inner Temple, without which help my work would have been much more difficult, and frequent journeys to London much more necessary ;—and, most important of all, the



Rev. W. O. Massingberd, M.A., Rector of South Ormsby, who gave me many most useful hints as to sources of information, and communicated to me what I must regard as the most valuable of my facts. To the Secretary of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, and to the various Incumbents who allowed me to make extracts from the registers under their charge, my sincere thanks are due. From many parishioners and neighbours I have received hints or scraps of information for which I have been most grateful. To make a fuller acknowledgment would cause my preface to be longer than my book. I shall be glad if what I have written below brings out in any way a truer knowledge of Partney in the past and a clearer understanding of its condition in the present.

G. G. W.





## DEDICATION.

TO THE PARISHIONERS OF PARTNEY.

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

I wish to dedicate to you these Notes on the history of our parish. You will see, when you read them, that they are nothing more than Notes. Anything worthy of the name of a History was outside my aim and beyond my powers. Nor do I claim to give you anything very original or new. I have but put together such notices about Partney as I could glean from various books and documents, while with them I have tried to mould into something like a continuous story the traditions still current amongst us.

A clergyman must act as an unconscious historian every time he enters a baptism, a marriage, or a burial in the parochial registers. And so one of

the first things I should always do on entering upon the charge of a parish would be to make myself acquainted with the contents of the Church chest and gladly welcome any information I could get about the life past and present of the place I had come to dwell in. As you seem to understand the character of a man the better if you have learnt something about his parentage and bringing up, so to be not altogether uninformed about the past history of a parish, makes it easier to understand what otherwise were but unmeaning irregularity. To have written out these Notes, therefore, is, I would venture to think, by no means a waste of your Rector's time, because in looking into the past and trying to explain to you something of what he sees therein he has in the truest sense been also educating himself. This is what I hope I may always be doing during the years, be they few or many, in which I may be allowed to subscribe myself

Your friend and Rector,

GILBERT G. WALKER.

PARTNEY, *Easter*, 1898.



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1. "Partney Village," from a photograph by Mrs. E. A. B. Sanders.
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## CORRECTIONS.

- Page 20. For "Hanen" read "Haven."
- „ 23. For "Bessett" read "Bassett."
- „ 26. For "Sommenesland" read "Summonerland."
- „ 34. "Lying in ming." 'Ming' is the old form of which 'mingle' is a frequentative.
- „ 38. These marriage licences are taken from Mr. Gibbons' book.
- „ 40. For "15th" read "17th."
- „ 42. Mr. Booth's preferments also included the Rectory of Belleau and the Vicarage of Wainfleet St. Mary.
- „ 46. For "Whinney" read "Whinnery."
- „ 82. "A sore sparrow hawk" meant a bird of one year old.
- „ 93. For "12th" read "13th."
- „ 119. For "Kitsby" read "Ketsby."
- „ 136. Parish Clerks. The immediate predecessor of John Smith was Moses Bailey.



## CHAPTER I.

### THE NAME.

 HERE is always an interest attached to the name of a place, and in a special way is this the case with Partney. Amid a district thickly studded with "bys" and "thorpes," bespeaking a Danish settlement, it is one of the few that retains an Anglo-Saxon form, and may thus claim for itself the distinction of having a longer continuous history than most of its neighbours. It was during the 5th and 6th centuries of the Christian Era that Angles, Saxons, and Jutes came over from what we now call Schleswig-Holstein\* and settled in the land which hitherto they had known as Britain. It would be incorrect to suppose that they conquered the country all at once, rather they kept on fighting their battles against the Welsh, as they called the natives, and gradually so drove them westward that little trace of them was left behind. We still use a few words

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\* Prof. Freeman's *Old English History*.

of Welsh origin \* in our everyday talk—cradle, kiln, pool, dam, daub, mop, pillow, for instance—but our place names are almost all of them of Anglo-Saxon or Danish origin. We speak, indeed, of the Wash† and the Bain, and Marden Hill, and in fact it is the mountains and rivers which are always found to preserve the relics of a race that has passed away. In this part of Lincolnshire our hills generally go by the name of the village to which they belong, and so, too, does our only river, though it is sometimes called the Limb (or Lymm) a name which may possibly have a Welsh origin. I cannot help thinking that if we want to find Welsh names we ought to look amongst the field names of our parishes, changed considerably as they must be from their original form, and so making an explanation all the more difficult. This would possibly be the key, could we but use it aright, which would open out to us the meaning of the Quarrums, the Codgums, the Jups in Spilsby, the Bellums, Quiber Kettles, and Blunkets in Hundleby, and a great many more, quaint words which we use often enough on the farms without thinking of how they may be taking us back a thousand years or more, and forcing us to speak in the tongue of men long gone.‡ But for the origin of village names we

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\* Dr. Morris' *Historical English Grammar*.

† Dr. Isaac Taylor's *Words and Places*.

‡ Mr. C. G. Smith, the translator of *Domesday Book for Lincolnshire*, finds British (*i.e.*, Welsh) names where others would certainly look for a Scandinavian origin. Thus he takes Dalby to mean (Dhalbuy) a hill altar dwelling, *i.e.*, a Druidical abode.



must look rather to the English or Danish invaders. The most common termination for the English names is "ton." It means a place surrounded by a hedge or palisade. Often it was but a solitary farmstead: round this perhaps there grew a village, and the village grew to a town. Then there is "borough" or "bury": at first the funeral mound or barrow which covered the dead, and then the embanked enclosure which gave shelter to the living. Another suffix is "ham": not very different in meaning from these two; while most important of all is "ing," which, however, more usually forms the middle than the last syllable of a name. It has the force of the Scotch Mac, and implies a family settlement. Now, if we look at the villages which actually touch Partney, we find Langton and Halton, but no "ham" or "ing" or "borough." They, too, if ever they existed, have gone the way of their predecessors, the Welsh. Instead, it is—Spilsby with Eresby, Hundleby, Ashby, Scremby with Grebby, Skendleby, Dalby with Dexthorpe and Sausthorpe: eight in "by" and two in "thorpe." And if we take yet a wider circle much the same proportion is preserved—Toynnton, Fordington, Harrington, Steeping,\* and then the rest—Aswardby, Sutterby, Somersby, Enderby, Raithby,

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\* We also get this syllable "ing" in Bolingbroke. The common explanation that makes this "the boiling brook" is probably wrong. For one thing, "Bolinbroc" is as old as Domesday Book, and boil—to bubble up—is not (see Prof. Skeat's *Dictionary*). Dr. Isaac Taylor connects Bolingbroke with Bollington, Essex; Bolligneaux and Bollignay, France; and Bolengo, Italy.

Firsby, Orby, Gunby, Candlesby, Claxby, Ulceby. We are in a district of "bys" and "thorpes," of which the former is by far the more common. These names have been left us by the Danes or Northmen who came over in the 8th century, as the Angles, Jutes, and Saxons had done before them. They established themselves over half England, and besides coming here they founded kingdoms in France, Italy, Scotland and Ireland, and penetrated even into Russia and to Constantinople. By the aid of their place names we can still define with some degree of accuracy the area they ravaged and the district they colonised. The most valuable test word in England is "by," which in France becomes "bœuf." Originally denoting a single farm, it came to mean a village. In parts of England it has almost ousted the Anglo-Saxon "ham" and "ton," and in Lincolnshire alone occurs 200 times.\* Other common Norse terminations are "thorpe," "toft," and "thwaite." The two former are familiar to us all, but "thwaite," though often occurring in Cumberland, is generally said in books on the subject not to be met with at all in Lincolnshire.† But it is found once. We have "Thwaite Hall" in the middle of Welton Wood, and we see the appropriateness when we remember that the meaning

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\* Dr. I. Taylor (*Words and Places*) says 100. Prof. Worsæe, in *An Account of the Danes and Norwegians in England, Scotland and Ireland*, gives the number more correctly as 212 out of a total of 604 for the whole of England.

† So both Taylor and Worsæe.

is "a forest clearing." We shall look for the British or Welsh name, then, as I believe, in the fields. We shall often find the English name in a hamlet or farmstead, or sometimes, *vice versa*, the English is still the name of the village, and there are Norse hamlets round it. Thus Halton includes Northorpe: Welton includes Hanby, Boothby, and Thwaite. Hidden away in a corner of Scremby is Bassingham, "The home of the Basings," in whose place the Norse warrior, whom his men called Skramr, after the name of a monster giant, has given his name to the village. Another such as he had his home at Skrimthorpe\* in Bratoft. And so, too, Spilsby, Hundleby, and Asgarby, speak of a Spillr, a Hundolf, and an Asgeir, who came from over the water and made for themselves new homes among the pleasant wolds of Lincolnshire. But when they came they found a Partney, an island between two of the branches of the river which then, as now, flowed down the valley. This "ey," or "ea," is a well-known English termination for an island, and while the oarsman on the Thames may still row round Sonning Eye, the Londoner in lower waters finds his Chertsey, Chelsea, and Battersea joined to the mainland by rich pastures, and the river, no longer a broad lagoon dotted with marshy islands, is confined within regular banks. We must think of Partney, then, as once an island. What the first syllable means it is hard to conjecture,

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\* The Rev. W. B. Streatfeild, in his *Lincolnshire and the Danes*, gives a slightly different explanation of the origin of these names.

and the various spellings\* we get do not help us. This much is clear : it is not a Norse word. In our neighbour, Skendleby Holm, we see what the Norsemen called an island in a river. As the second syllable of Partney is so English, no doubt the first is too. To reach us either from Spilsby, Langton, Dalby, or Scremby, the visitor must cross a stream. Once, we know, these were much wider than at present. The engineering skill which has been brought to bear upon the whole system of drainage in the country is quite sufficient to explain the topographical changes without much geological knowledge or recourse to elaborate theory. Partney, then, was once an island ; indeed, we might say it is an island still, and it is not difficult to see that just as Westminster Abbey was built for security on Thorney Island, so a similar position was chosen for Partney Abbey, and later for Partney Church. The acreage of the parish is small. Even now it is regarded as containing but 920 acres, and many of these, of course, are meadow land, which have been secured in comparatively modern times from the wanderings of the streams. How this particular island came to be called Partney we have no means of knowing. The word is obviously like Bardney, with which, no doubt, it has sometimes been confounded. The

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\* Peartaneu, Bede ; Partene, *Domesday Book* ; Partan ; Parthenay, K. Stephen ; Parteneie, A.D. 1202 ; Peartan ; Peartenei ; Parteneye, *Inquisitiones Nonarum* ; Partney, as now, Edward III. ; Partnay ; Partnye, *Will of Sir C. Wray* ; Partenay ; Parteney.

termination, though comparatively rare, is not unique in the district. We have Kelsey in Great Steeping, and Stickney, Sibsey, Friskney, and Helsey in Mumby are not far off.

We may note other silent witnesses to the antiquity and former importance of Partney. The official names of the adjoining parishes of Langton and Ashby have "by-Partney" added to them to distinguish them from other places of the same name in different parts of the county, though, of course, the modern postal address is Spilsby. Yet at an Inquisition taken at Lincoln Castle in 1499, Spilsby itself is described as "Spilsby by Partenay."

Then there are the roads. It is difficult for us to realise that most of the roads we use daily were 100 years ago only tracks across open fields, wherein, in bad weather, wheels were wont to stick fast. And, indeed, there are people still living in Partney who have been told by those who had seen it, that in winter time it took two horses to drag a load of half a ton up "Blue Hill," while between the "Mill" and the Sausthorpe corner, a part known appropriately as "the watery lane," a flood in rainy seasons was of common occurrence.\* But if we speak of really old

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\* The following note, which has somehow escaped destruction, is a good illustration :—

DEAR SIR,—I understand the Watery Lane at Partney is very dangerous, which prevents my being at Spilsby to-day. If you or your son will be at the meeting, will you act for me.—Yours most sincerely,

*Scremby, Feb. 1st, 1810.*

CHAS. BRACKENBURY.

Joseph Brackenbury, Esq<sup>r</sup>.

roads we must go back to a time when the communication between Spilsby and Partney was not *via* Blue Hill at all. Starting down the Ashby road this road went down the "Washdyke Lane," and so over the river at a ford, near which a mill formerly stood, the place being still marked by a dilapidated cradle bridge. Travellers came out eventually by "Arden's Lane" (or is it Harding's?) and so to the village green and that part still known as "the town," though there are very few houses there now. A similar road went out from Spilsby by Toynton Park and East Keal Church to Boston. It is very easy to understand that the present road through Eresby and close to the old castle was no public path in the days when Lord Willoughby ruled there in person. But Partney was in more direct communication with the outer world. One of the oldest roads (now a mere footpath) went straight from the part known as the Monk's Close to Monksthorpe in Great Steeping. With Dalby and with Skendleby there was communication by ways, still plain to follow, to the left of the present roads, while, most important of all, due east and west through the village (and to the north of the Church) there passed a highway in direct communication with the marshes, along which coal could be brought from the sea, and cattle fattened in those marshes be driven for sale to Partney at the September and October fairs. In the place, too, there was a "Hospital," and that, as will be explained in a later chapter, implies visitors and frequented

roads. And that such an institution was established here at a very early date points to a line of direct communication going past its doors. Further, in our consideration of the comparative value, in ancient and modern times, of some particular bit of road, we must always bear in mind that whereas now our principal highways run north and south, a relic of coaching routes to London, in earlier years they went east and west, connecting the sea with that Great North Road which had been left us by the Romans, to whom, as road makers, none attempted to succeed till comparatively modern times.\* Compared with the evidence of geology or place names, all this testimony—and even that of the fairs themselves—is but of yesterday, but it all helps to show very definitely that right up to the beginning of this century Partney kept a primacy among the villages round.

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\* It illustrates the greater importance of the sea as a means of local communication to our forefathers to remember that, even in this century, a clergyman moving from Trusthorpe to Cambridgeshire sent his furniture by sea.





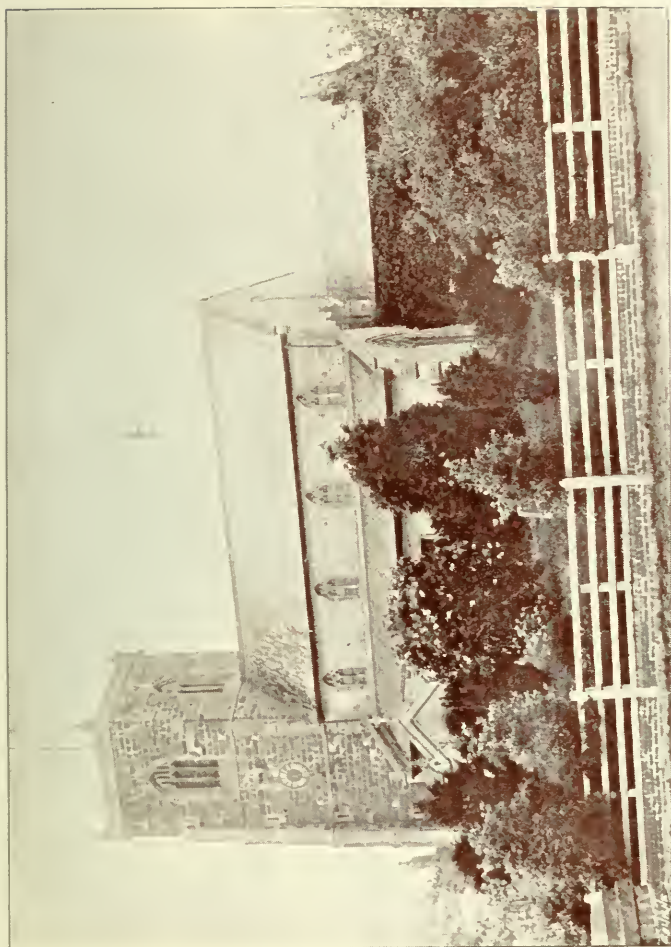
## CHAPTER II.

### THE CHURCH.



THE antiquarian and architectural interest in an English village generally centres round the Parish Church. In the old Church there is a building which probably shows signs of having been constructed at different dates and in the varying developments of the Gothic style, while, unless it has been most injudiciously restored, it is certain to contain some features of more than ordinary, if not unique, interest. To the Parish Church a stranger is naturally first taken, as to the one show-place of the village, and the more the incumbent has been able or inclined to study the past history of the building of which he is guardian, the more he is sure to learn about it, making what may at first appear extraneous studies work round to the subject of explaining and illustrating the many points of interest a village Church is sure to yield. Those Churches, however, which (like East





PARTNEY CHURCH.



Kirkby) have not yet been restored will probably prove the more fruitful field for the investigator, while Partney, which was almost the first in the neighbourhood to be repaired, resembles rather the picture which reveals all it has to show at the first glance than the work of an old master from which only the study of a lifetime will learn all it has to teach.

In the notice of Partney in *Domesday Book*, A.D. 1086, there is no mention of any Church. Although this is by no means proof that no Church was here at that time, yet it is strange that if there was one there should be nothing said about it, since amongst our neighbours Churches are recorded in :—Ashby, Dalby (2 !), Fordington, Candlesby (2), Hundleby, Halton Holgate, East and West Keal, Raithby, Steeping (2), Toynton All Saints' and St. Peter's, Langton, Skendleby and Scremby. There must, however, have been a Church here before the end of the reign of William I., for it is mentioned in a grant of Gilbert de Gaunt to Bardney Abbey, and appears as "The Church of St. Nicholas" in a confirmation of this grant by his great-grandson.

St. Nicholas\* was Bishop of Myra in Lycia and died Dec. 6, A.D. 326, which day has ever since been kept as his festival. As early as A.D. 560 a Church was dedicated to his honour at Constantinople, and he has always been one of the most popular Saints both in the East and West. Three hundred and seventy-six

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\* Dr. Wm. Smith's *Dictionary*. *Cornhill Magazine*, May, 1895.

Churches are dedicated to him in England, the largest number to any one Saint. His acts, which may embody some historical elements, are filled with legends and miracles. His parents occupied a good position, and Nicholas, of whose infancy wonderful things are recorded, has become a patron Saint of children, and under his Dutch name of Santa Klaus is still a popular friend in many a nursery. Among the stories told of him are that as soon as he was born he stood up and gave thanks for the gift of existence, and that even in infancy he always fasted on Fridays. As soon as he grew to man's estate he adopted an ascetic life and went on a journey to Palestine. Then began a series of miracles which have made him a popular Saint amongst sailors and fishermen, and he has taken the place of Poseidon, the Greek Neptune, in this respect, and a temple of this god has actually been converted into a Church of St. Nicholas. In the year 1084 his relics were removed from Myra to Bari in Italy, whence he is commonly known as Nicholas of Bari. The Venetians, however, also claim the possession of his body. In both towns the Church of St. Nicholas, which is supposed to have been erected over the relics, is close to the mouth of the harbour. Similarly, the dedications to the Saint in England are for the most part in the harbours and fishing villages of the south coast. And though of the Lincolnshire Churches so named many are quite inland, it is easy to see the appropriateness of choosing

a fisherman's Saint for the dedication of Addlethorpe, East Kirkby, and Partney.\*

The figure of Saint Nicholas is a prominent one in several of the great mediæval pictures now in our National Gallery, notably in the Blenheim Madonna, purchased at great cost a few years ago. This was painted by Raffael, in 1505, for the Ansidei family at Peaugia, and represents the Virgin and Child seated, with St. John the Baptist on the right and St. Nicholas on the left. The latter is depicted in full episcopal canonicals, holding a book, as becomes the patron of studious youth, and at his feet the three golden balls which are his usual emblem.† No doubt the figure over the south door at Partney is intended to represent him, and another statue probably once stood in the now unoccupied niche on the west front of the tower.

Another Saint connected with Partney is St. Mary Magdalene, in whose honour a Hospital existed here from the time of Henry I. It has been suggested ‡ that the chantry marked off by a screen in the north aisle is dedicated to her, but I think we get a more correct explanation of this from the will of William Brasse, in 1453, who directed that he should be buried in St. Nicholas' churchyard, Partney, and made

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\* As also Deeping, Skirbeck, and Haxey. Compare, too, Great Yarmouth and Aberdeen.

† See also the Madonna enthroned with St. Peter and St. Nicholas by Benevenuto de Siena (1436-1518); St. Bernadine of Siena with Saints Jerome, Joseph, Francis, and Nicholas, by Alessandro Moretto (1498-1515); and Consecration of St. Nicholas, by Paul Veronese (1528-1588).

‡ Bishop Trollope's *Paper*.

bequests to the High Altar and to the Altars of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Thomas.\*

Our present building, however, cannot be that which Gilbert and Walter de Gaunt knew of. That, probably, was something after the fashion of Sutterby or old Dalby, as some can still remember it—small and low, and containing, as those Churches do or did, some remains of Norman work. At Sutterby we have been content with the insertion of a few later windows, otherwise the Church is not, perhaps, materially different from what it has always been. But just as in 1862 Dalby was rebuilt from the foundations in quite a different style from the old Church, so our ancestors in the 14th century dealt with Partney. It is a tradition in the parish, the truth of which there is no reason to doubt, that the green sandstone required was obtained from a now disused pit on the Dalby road.

The proportions of the Church are good. Tower, nave, and aisles harmonise well in character, though the good impression which would otherwise be derived from the whole is spoilt by the present disfigurement of a mean chancel. If any Norman or early English work was utilised by the 14th century builders, subsequent repairs and alterations have swept it all away. The Church was begun when what is called the Decorated Style was in vogue, and finished later in the Perpendicular. To this last belong the Tower with its fine arch and west window and the

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\* Rev. A. R. Maddison's *Lincolnshire Walls*.

large east window of the chancel, which last can hardly be earlier than 1450.\*

\*It is in accordance with the plan of this book that I should explain these terms.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Characteristics and Examples.</i>
Norman	1066-1150	Round-headed doorways and windows, zigzag ornaments (north doorway at Sutterby).
Early English	1150-1250	Narrow-pointed windows, clustered pillars (west windows at Huttoft and Hogsthorpe).
Decorated	1250-1350	Tracery in windows, enriched doorways (windows at Bolingbroke).
Perpendicular	1350-1550	Upright lines in windows, arches and pillars without capitals (tower arch and west window at Partney). Compare also the towers of Spilsby, Halton, Bolingbroke and West Keal. The exact date of the latter may be fixed by the arms blazoned on it. They are those of Edward III., and Robert, 4th Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, who died 1396. The same arms are carved on a pew in Halton Church.
Tudor		Square windows as in north aisle at Bolingbroke. Mostly employed for houses, Harrington Hall a good example.
After this came a revival of the Classical Style.	17th Cent.	St. Paul's Cathedral, London, the most famous example. Compare Scremby and Langton Churches.
And we have now gone back to a revival of Gothic.	19th Cent.	The modern Churches at Saus-thorpe, 1844; Firsby, 1856; Dalby, 1862.

The chancel\* was rebuilt in 1828. It is meanly constructed of brick and quite out of keeping with the rest of the Church. It is divided from the nave by an oak screen, of which only the lower part now remains. As was common in Churches of this district,† similar screens (called *parcloses*) probably marked off chantry chapels at the east end of the aisles. All that is now left is the western part in the north aisle. Both portions of screen have been repaired with newer work which has been on the whole well done and helps to keep the old together.

The font belongs to the 15th century. It is octagonal and tracery is carved on the panels. One panel is plain both on the bowl and the shaft, though these are not now immediately over one another. This seems to imply that the font was originally fastened to a pillar which the plain panel exactly fits. At East Keal the font is still so fixed, at Willoughby it was until a few years ago, at Bratoft there is one plain panel hollowed out in a curious way so as to fit

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\* We must remember that the Rector for the time being rebuilt our chancel entirely at his own expense and that these village Churches had to be repaired by a rate levied on the parishioners. The system of public subscriptions for Church restoration, and the raising of money for the purpose by bazaars, concerts, or fêtes, was not thought of. The cost sometimes fell heavily on the parish. At Huttoft, for instance, there was a rate of 2/6 in the £ in 1809 for the re-hanging of the Church bells which implied a contribution of some £273, though we are inclined now to grumble because four good bells were melted down to make three moderate ones.

† Compare for good examples, Bratoft, Addlethorpe, and Theddlethorpe All Saints.



perfectly, at Dalby, too, there is one plain side, and at East Kirkby the position is the same as at East Keal, though the font does not actually touch the pillar and is decorated on all its eight sides. By a constitution of Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1236, fonts were required to be covered and locked. This was because it was the custom to consecrate the water for baptism with much ceremony once a year. The marks left in the stone by the wrenching away of the iron fastenings may still be seen at Partney. Though not definitely ordered by the Anglican Canons of either 1571 or 1604 a cover of some sort is seemly, and the articles of enquiry at episcopal visitations generally pre-suppose its use.

The bells are three in number; three, as some campanologists have told us, out of a peal of five. They all have inscriptions: (1) "Henry Penn Fusore (*i.e.*, bell founder), Peterborough, 1712"; (2) "Jesus be our Spede, 1595"; (3) "Katherina vocata sum Rosa Dulcata numdi"—I am called Katherine the sweet rose of the world. This may be regarded as the oldest of the 3 bells.\*

The clock. These bells are also used for striking

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\* It is worth recording here that in the modern Church of Holy Trinity, Louth, built A.D. 1866, there is a bell with the inscription "Francis Garthside Rector James Boyes C. W. 1725."

As Francis Garthside was the name of the Rector here from 1685 to 1727, it might be thought that this bell had formerly hung at Partney. There seems no doubt, however, from papers in the Church chest there that it has belonged to Claxby, and was sold when the present Church was built and the bell turret made too small for the old bell.

the hours and quarters by a clock in the tower. This clock was the workmanship and gift of Sydney Maddison, Esq., of Partney Hall, in 1869. It superseded an old one which had gone for 130 years and required to be wound up daily. It is to this fact, no doubt, that the very much worn condition of the lower steps in the tower is due.

There are no monuments of special interest. A small brass of the 17th century has been fixed on the north wall, and there are mural tablets to byegone Rectors. The inscriptions are as follows :—

- (1) Brass (15 inches by 8 inches)\*

Here lyeth the Body of M<sup>rs</sup>. Jane  
Rugely late wife of George  
Rugely of Partney Gent who  
Departed this life the 23<sup>rd</sup> of  
March in the yeare of our Lord  
1670 being aged 56 yeares  
Cujus anima requiescit in pace.

- (2) Marble tablet on south wall of chancel, fixed in its present position June, 1896.

Near this place lies the body of Hannah wife of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. William Tuting, formerly Rector of this Parish. She died in the 27<sup>th</sup> year of her age on the 20th of February in the year of our Lord 1790.

The parish register records the burial of this lady  
“in the Church.”

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\* At the date of writing Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, A.D. 1829, it would appear that this brass was fixed to a stone in the middle aisle.

- (3) Small marble tablet on south wall of chancel.\*

In memory of James Flanner, M.A., Rector of Partney who died March 6<sup>th</sup> 1814 aged 58 years.

- (4) Tablet of slate and marble on north wall of chancel.

In memory of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Field Flowers, late of Boston, Rector of this Parish, who died 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1818 in the 46<sup>th</sup> year of his age.

Later his son Mr. Frederick Flowers, Police Court Magistrate at Bow Street, London, erected a three-light stained glass window in memory of

Field Flowers B.A. Rector of Partney who died 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1818 aged 46 years.

Mary his wife who died at Devonport 2 Sept. 1842 aged 66 years.

Fanny their daughter who died at Lyddington 6 Sept. 1836 aged 24 years.

- (5) And underneath this there has since been placed a brass.

In ever loving remembrance of

Frederick Flowers third son of

The above Field and Mary Flowers

He was Recorder of Stamford and for 24 years

A magistrate of the Bow Street Police Court

Died at Hornsey 26th January 1886.

“The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon him and he caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.”

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\* Oldfield says “over north door of chancel.”

Of more perishable things we have now but little to show, nor have we any means of knowing whether we ever possessed much. Unfortunately, Partney does not appear in the list of parishes in a document of 1566 which mentions such articles of Church furniture as had been used in former years but were then considered by the authorities superstitious or unnecessary.\*

When Mr. Gervase Holles visited Lincolnshire Churches in 1630 he found at Partney a cross inscribed "Orate pro animabus Thomæ at Hanen et Marie Uxoris quorum aiebus propicietur Deus Amen." (Pray ye for the souls of Thomas at Haven and Mary his wife, on whose souls may God be gracious, Amen.) Holles also noticed their arms in one of the windows.

"The old communion plate, viz., a silver chalice, battered very thin, and a pewter flagon and patten, having become unfitted by wear and age for its sacred purpose, new communion plate, consisting of silver patten and chalice and a silver-plated flagon, was obtained by the exertions of Mrs. Bayldon, and used for the first time on Whitsunday, May 16th, 1875."—J. W. B.

The pulpit, which in old directories is described as being "of oak richly carved," has given place to a modern one of stone diapered work. The old one stood near a pillar of the North Nave Arcade.

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\* *Church Furniture of Lincolnshire*, edited by Edward Peacock.

“25th October, 1810, the 50th anniversary of the Accession of King George III. of Great Britain &c. Mr. Thomas Garfit of Hundleby gave to James Flanner, Rector of this Parish, a Book entitled the Common Prayer &c. illustrated and explained which Book he bequeaths to his successors.”—J. F.

The book is now lost.

In the churchyard there is the base and broken shaft of a stone cross. The base is ornamented at the four corners with the lion, ox, man, and eagle (emblems of the four evangelists) in much the same design as on the font at Huttoft. On the four sides are plain shields. Up to a few years ago these stones were buried two feet in the ground. The Rev. E. Allanson had them raised to their present position. These crosses are common enough in churchyards of the district. It is only at Somersby we get one still left in perfection. At Mavis Enderby and Huttoft we can see most happy restorations.

There is a very ancient oak in the churchyard which at one time extended its branches quite over the road on the south. It is supposed to be a thousand years old, and, though covered with ivy and all its heart decayed away, still puts out some leaves every spring. The younger tree near it was planted in 1824.

In 1606 the condition of Rectory, Church, and Churchyard was discreditable. Edward Salmon was presented at the Bishop's Visitation “for decay of the Rectory House etc.,” and Edward Jackson and

Edmund Gaule, churchwardens, "for suffering a window in ye said Church to fall downe and not reedifying the same againe but daubeing yt almost wholly with brick and clay and not maintaining ye churchyard fence but suffering swine to come in and roote it uppe." There were also other complaints : Against William Burrill "for killing and dressing butcher meat on the Sabbath Day ;" against John Wood "for keeping 5 or 6 swine continually in ye churchyard there rooting up ye graves of ye deade : also for using himself unreverently towards ye minister and for not coming to Church upon ye 5 November haveing due notice thereof given unto him and for ringing his swine in ye time of praiers upon ye said day."\* Indeed, it is only in comparatively recent years that a better state of things has been inaugurated for Partney churchyard. Up to thirty years ago it had been from time immemorial the playground and battlefield of the village, which circumstance is quite sufficient to account for the complete absence of all ancient tombstones. It extended up to the cottages on the east side, which opened on to it, and to the garden hedges to the north, while it was traversed by footpaths in every direction. By giving up ground for footways on the east and north the Rev. R. Giles got the churchyard enclosed on every side and all the footpaths stopped except one. This, though necessary as an approach to the Church, his

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\* These extracts, from the Visitation presentments, were given in the *Lincoln Diocesan Magazine*, 1891.

successor, with the consent of the parishioners, was able to close in 1872.

The Church was restored during the incumbency of the Rev. R. Giles, and re-opened for Divine Service on June 25th, 1863. The nave and aisles were entirely re-built and a new porch erected, after designs by C. Giles, Esq., G. W. Maddison, Esq., J.P., of Partney Hall, defraying the cost of the latter.\* It remains for the present generation to repair the tower and re-build the chancel. The former really requires the re-building of the top story, though the whole was thoroughly pointed and the buttresses strengthened in 1884. The chancel was re-seated in oak in 1889, and the small vestry converted into an organ chamber after designs by Wm. Bessett-Smith, Esq., who has also prepared plans for a new chancel. A new vestry was formed by screening off a portion of the north aisle in 1895. It is in completing the work of 1863, and providing those more perishable fittings which reverence demands, that opportunity remains for us to preserve the dignity and increase the usefulness of our Parish Church.

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\* At the same time the Church was entirely re-seated with open benches. Previous to this there were no pews at all between the westernmost bays of the nave arcades and the tower. It was all open space, and the font stood in the vacant part of the south aisle. It is worth recording here that there were formerly two other doors to the Church, one in the chancel and another in the north aisle. Both have been done away with in re-building. Their absence, which might seem a peculiarity of original design, only arises from a modern supposed improvement.



## CHAPTER III.

### THE RECTORY.

**T**HE Benefice of Partney is "a discharged rectory." That is to say, the incumbent is rector and receives the tithes on the whole parish, and has been discharged from the payment of "first fruits and tenths." These latter sums before the Reformation were paid to the Pope. By Henry VIII. they were appropriated to the Crown. Queen Anne restored them to the Church to form a fund for the augmentation of poor livings. At the same time those livings which were already poor were discharged from further liability to contribute, and Partney came under this category.

As we have no mention of the Church of Partney in *Domesday Book*, so neither have we of any rector. But both must have been in existence here when Gilbert de Gaunt, in the reign of William I., bestowed upon the Abbey of Bardney "4 carucates of land



and 2 bovates in Steeping and in Firsby and the Church of that place, in Skendleby the Church of St. Peter with its land and tithes and the tithe of all my land in that place and in Steeping and in Partney. And in Partney aforesaid the Church with its appurtenances.”\* His son Walter, anxious, as he said, to confirm and augment these grants, gave further: “in Partney the hospital of St. Mary Magdalen with all its rights and appurtenances: the Church of the same place and the Chapel of St. Mary in the same place with all its appurtenances: my manor of Steeping with all the liberties pertaining to it in Steeping and Firsby and the Churches of those places with their appurtenances.” Gilbert de Gaunt, known as “the good,” great grandson of the first Gilbert, confirmed these gifts and speaks of them as “In Partney the Church of St. Nicholas with its appurtenances and the Chapel of St. Mary with its appurtenances and besides these the confraternity and Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen of Partney with its appurtenances and the hospital of that place with its appurtenances.” This Gilbert de Gaunt died in 1242. In 1286 Gilbert de Gaunt (5th of his name)† made an exchange of lands in Partney with Bardney Abbey, namely “lands and rents in Partney of the annual value of 60 shillings

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\* See Dugdale's *Monasticon*. Bardney Abbey, which had been founded at a very early period and made the home of the bones of King Oswald in 704, was destroyed by the Danes in 870. It was re-founded by Gilbert de Gaunt and Remigius, Bishop of Lincoln.

† See genealogical table of this family.

namely, the services of Walter Monkman in Partney and all the lands which he held of the aforesaid Gilbert in villenage, with all its appurtenances and his cattle amounting to 24 shillings per annum. Also one toft and 3 parts of a bovaté of land with all its appurtenances in the said village and elsewhere which is called Sommenesland amounting to 20 shillings per annum, and 16 shillings per annum rents to be received at the customary times from 5 tofts, one bovaté, and 3rd part of a bovaté of land in the village of Partney which Robert de Handebok holds of the said Lord Gilbert by the service of the said Robert or his heirs and the said toft or lands in perpetuity." For this property Bardney Abbey gave up the mill at Bradham in Skendleby, which passed, on the death of Gilbert de Gaunt, to his widow. A charter of Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln (A.D. 1209-1235), recites that Bardney Abbey has "in Partney the Church of St. Nicholas with its appurtenances and the Chapel of St. Mary and tithes on the mill."\*

It was usual, when the endowments of a benefice were in this way handed over to a monastery, for the latter to keep them all as its own income, except a definite charge for the maintenance of a Vicar to take the services. But there was a constant tendency on the part of the monasteries to encroach on the portion assigned to the Vicar, and in the time of Bishop Hugh, alluded to above, matters had reached such a

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\* Of course this mill must have been on the older site down the "Washdyke Lane."

point that a reformation was imperatively necessary. The Bishop was an able administrator, and faced the question. "One of his greatest works," says the late Archdeacon Perry,\* "was a general and formal rescue from monkish greed and selfishness of a portion of the tithes of the Churches, which, by one method or another, the religious had appropriated." Gilbert de Gaunt had given Partney, Skendleby, and Steeping to Bardney Abbey, but for some reason, which I am quite unable to explain, Partney remained a rectory, and the rights over it were, at an early period, commuted for a "pension of £1 6s. 8d. yearly." Skendleby and Steeping became vicarages, and the Abbey, while content with a pension from Partney, seems to have taken all the income of Skendleby until Bishop Hugh compelled an arrangement to be made for securing some portion of the endowment to a vicarage.† Similar arrangements were made for Hundleby, Alford, and Huttoft, and many other parishes throughout the diocese. The rapacity of the monks brought, however, its own punishment, and was undoubtedly one of the causes which, in the

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\* *Liber Hugonis de Wells*, with introduction by Archdeacon Perry.

† The method of procedure is said to have been as follows: "An inquisition was made in the Chapter of the Rural Deans of the value of the rectory and the competent portion to be assigned to vicarages. A return was then made to the Bishop, who was to approve and confirm the Acts of the Chapter if he thought fit: then the allotment was entered in the Bishop's Register. The amount usually assigned to the Vicar was one third of the profits of the benefice derived from the altar dues and tithes, as well as a house and some glebe. He had to bear some part of the burdens incident to ecclesiastical benefices." Under

reign of Henry VIII., brought about their complete ruin and the confiscation of their property. But, though a large part of this had been obtained from the endowments originally intended for the parochial clergy, at the dissolution of the monasteries this income, instead of being restored to its original purpose, was, with the exception of a small portion devoted to the foundation of new bishopricks, entirely diverted from religious uses. The Vicar of Skendleby did not get back the "great tithes," as they are called on corn, hay, and wood, and the Rector of Partney had to continue the payment of his "pension." He still pays it, but since Abbots of Bardney have ceased to be, he pays it to the Sovereign.\*

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some such procedure the Bishop confirmed an arrangement to the Vicarage of Skendleby. "Vicaria in Ecclesia de Skendleby que est eorundem consistit in omnibus oblacionibus altaris et in tota terra dominica ipsius ecclesiæ et in decima totius lanæ et omnium agnorum ad eandem ecclesiam preveniencium. Debet autem Vicarius omnia onera episcopalia illius ecclesia et consueta sustinere præter hospicium achidiaconi quod dicti abbas et conventus procurabunt." The Vicarage of Skendleby, which belongs to the same people (that is, the Abbot and Monastery of Bardney, who are mentioned in the previous entry) consists of all the altar offerings and all the glebe and the tithe of all the wool and lambs pertaining to the said Church. But the Vicar is bound to pay all episcopal charges due and customary, except hospitality for the Archdeacon, which the said abbot and monastery shall provide."—*Liber Hugonis de Wells.*

\* Similarly the endowments of Huttoft had got into the possession of the priory of Markby. The property has changed hands several times, but the owner is still responsible for the repairs to the chancel and the payment of £9 per annum to the Vicar. In 1855 this property was sold for £16,500, but the £9 remains the same. However, if the Vicar of Huttoft felt sometimes inclined to grumble that his £9 had not increased to £90, which would more adequately represent its

In or about the year 1290 a valuation of all the benefices of England was drawn up. It is known as the "Taxatio Ecclesiastica of Pope Nicholas."\* The following is the statement of the value of Partney :—

Decanatus de Candleshow :

Ecclesia de Parteney præter pensionem £10 0 0

Pensio Abbatis de Bardney in eadem £1 6 8

The total income of the benefice, therefore was £11 6s. 8d.

In the 15th year of the reign of Edward III. (1342) a grant was made to the King of the 9th lamb, fleece, and sheaf, for the expenses of his wars in France.† Commissioners were appointed who held an inquiry. "The parishioners found upon oath the value of the 9th of the corn, wool, and lambs ; then the amount of the ancient tax of the Church was stated, and afterwards the causes of the 9th, not amounting to the value of the tax or value of the Church, were assigned, and when the 9th did not exceed the tax it was assigned for cause thereof that within the valuation or tax of the Church there were other articles included besides corn, wool, and lambs, such as glebe of the Church, tythe of hay, and other tythes. And if any abbey or priory or

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present value compared with what it had when the arrangement was originally made, now, as Rector of Partney, he may be thankful that the charge of £1 6s. 8d. has not increased to £10.

\* *Taxatio Ecclesiastica P. Nicholai*, Rolls Series.

† *Nonarum Inquisitiones*, Rolls Series.

other religious corporation had property within any parish, the 9th arising from such property was found and returned." Ralph Taylor, Simon Borel, Alexander Chapman, Roger Dand, Richard Creed, Ralph Akewra, "and others," were jurors for Partney. They found that the Abbott of Bardney received "2 marks" from the benefice (*i.e.*, £1 6s. 8d) and that the value of the benefice was 17 marks (*i.e.*, £11 6s. 8d., as returned in 1290) "*maxima pars valoris ecclesiæ prædicatæ consistit in dote, feno, lacte, lino, canabo, oblationibus servitiæ et aliis minutis decimis*" (the greatest part of the value of the aforesaid Church consists in glebe, hay, milk, flax, hemp, oblations, and other small tithes). As the 9th was only to be assessed on corn, wool, and lambs it was estimated in the present case at 7 shillings.

In the 26th year of his reign (1535) Henry VIII. appointed commissioners to enquire into and report on the value of all the benefices in the country. The result of their enquiries is embodied in a book called the *Liber Regis* (King's Book). William Cole was found to be Rector of Partney and the total value of the Rectory was £13 6s. 8d. But the Rector was liable for the annual pension to the Abbey of Bardney of £1 6s. 8d., and also for 9s. 10d. to the Archdeacon "for procurations and Synodals," leaving therefore £11 10s. 2d. on which tenths were payable, these amounting to £1 3s. 0¼d.

From a survey of the parish taken in 1616 it

appears that the glebe lands amounted to 6 acres, 1 rood, 30½ poles.

In the 5th year of the reign of Queen Anne (1704) on the establishment of the Board of Queen Anne's Bounty, an Act of Parliament was passed for discharging small livings from the first fruits and tenths hitherto payable to the Crown.\* As the surrender was to benefit the poorer livings, obviously the first thing was to release them from further contribution. Partney came into a list of those in the Diocese of Lincoln of which "the clear improved yearly value" did not exceed £50, and as such became entitled to the relief. In fact the clear yearly value of Partney at that time was £44 15s. 9¼d.† It was still liable to the payment for procurations and synodals 9s. 10d. and the pension to Bardney of £1 6s. 8d. The latter, as has been stated, is still paid to the Crown; the former has ceased to be a charge. So far as it applies to "Episcopal Procurations" to the amount of 4s. 9d., it has been formally remitted (April 3rd, 1879) by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who now manage the estates of the See of Lincoln.

We get an accurate knowledge of the property of the benefice in the early part of the 18th century from the following paper, undated, now in the Church chest :—

Extracted from the Register of the Lord Bishop  
of Lincoln.

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\* See Canon Overton's *Life in the English Church, 1660-1714*, p. 229.

† Bacon's *Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus*.

Lincoln, Lindsey.        }  
 Deanery Candleshoe.    }

A Terrier of ye glebe lands belonging to ye  
 Rectory of Partney.

	<i>acres</i>	<i>roods</i>	<i>perches</i>
1. One house and onsett . . .	0	2	0
2. In the west field, 12 Leas .	3	1	0
3. The Gateroom . . . . .	0	2	0
4. One Lea in Cadington's Barrow . . . . .	0	1	36
5. One Lea in ye Copartners .	0	0	28
6. Two Leas in ye Parson's Infield . . . . .	0	2	32
7. One Lea in ye Great With- wongs belonging to Saus- thorpe Manor . . . . .	0	1	22
8. One Lea in Redlands Nook .	0	1	15
9. One Lea in Skendleby Holm	0	1	15
10. Two Leas in Dalby Walks .	1	0	0
11. Wool, lamb, and hay for this past yeare, and all tithes in kind . . . . .	38	0	0

Francis Garthside, Rector.

Jo. Peach,        }  
 John Wayet,    } Churchwardens.

Francis Garthside was Rector 1685-1727.

The parish registers have an entry of the burial of  
 John Peach in 1716.

No income for many years past has been received  
 from the entries numbered 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10.

The most interesting point about this return is the



insight it gives us into a very primitive system of agriculture. The Rector's land is all over the parish and some of it outside the parish, while it is for the most part evidently only an unfenced portion of larger fields. This is plainly true of the largest piece "12 leas in the west field." It is true of two out of the four pieces still recognised as glebe. One cannot help thinking that this reminds us of very primitive rights of pasture and meadow. The earliest type of village community \* which scholars have been able to discover, a type, too, that is as plainly visible in India or Fiji as it is in England, implies a collection of homesteads in the village. Possession of one of these carries with it the right to a share in the common field, the common meadow, and the common pasture. But this system also includes allotment of special portions to special servants of the community and the distribution of each man's share in strips all over the land occupied. There would, therefore, be in heathen times a portion for the temples. Later there are Church lands. But this share like the rest is in so many "leas" and scattered all over the parish. The existence of portions outside is a still more complicated matter and may take us back to a time before parishes with their clearly-defined boundaries had come into existence. The ownership of such pieces, in what is known as the "open field system," was not at first permanent. It has obvious drawbacks—the

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\* See the works on this subject by Seeböhm, Gomme, and Sir Henry Maine.

waste of time in getting about, the uselessness of clearing a strip which might pass next year to someone else, and the disputes about headlands and rights of way. It became meaningless and wasteful as the tenants came to occupy their lands in perpetual possession. But there was more likelihood of stereotyping the system, in what is after all only a later development of it, in the case of Church property, and so, as we look at some piece of glebe land "lying in ming," it takes us back in thought to very very early days and very primitive systems both of ownership and cultivation.\*

The total amount given in the Terrier above is 7 acres, 2 roods, and 28 perches, of which 6 acres, 1 rood, 11 perches, were inside the parish. In 1616 the amount (presumably inside the parish) had been 6 acres, 1 rood, 30½ perches. Since the award of 1840 it has consisted of:—

			A.	R.	P.
Ming Land (No. 6 in the 18th					
century return)	.	.	0	2	36
Ditto, No. 3	.	.	0	2	0
Garden, No. 1	.	.	0	1	33

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\* In his *Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire, 1798*, Arthur Young writes: "Lord Exeter has property on the Lincoln side of Stamford that seems held by some tenure of ancient custom among the farmers, resembling the rundale of Ireland. The tenants divide and plough up commons and then lay them down to become common again: and shift the open fields from hand to hand in such a manner that no man has the same land 2 years together: which has made such confusion that were it not for ancient surveys it would now be impossible to ascertain the property."

	A.	R.	P.
Glebe, No. 2 . . . .	3	1	20
	<hr/>		
	5	0	9
	<hr/>		

And to this was added, in 1895, as the new Rectory premises and paddock .	3	0	10
	<hr/>		

The tithes appear to have been commuted some time during Mr. Garthside's incumbency for 1/- per acre, but the acreage of the parish (without some modern drainage) would probably be smaller than at present. The Terrier puts them at £38 per annum. On 920 acres they should have been £46. In the year 1802 this composition was raised to produce a total higher by £25 per annum than for the previous amount, and in 1808 it was agreed between the Rector and the parishioners that the composition \* should be 2/- an acre, which, assuming there were 920 acres, would mean an income from this source of £92.† These compositions had been introduced to do away with the unsatisfactory system of paying in

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\* The overseer's accounts show that the parish paid for the legal expenses in connection with these agreements, and also for the collection of the tithe.

† This seems lower than the general rate. Arthur Young wrote in 1798, "About Spilsby tithes are seldom taken in kind, but the compositions are high : arable land 5/-, grass 2/6 an acre, some lower, but in general 3/6 or 4/- an acre round." To this he adds "There are in the county about 660 pieces of preferment, including perpetual curacies and donatives, which are on an average about £70."

kind. The farmer sometimes could not lead his corn because the tithe man had not been round to mark the tenth sheaf, and yet it was obviously impossible for the clergyman to get the work done all at once so as to suit all parties. The Commutation Act of 1837 came as a great relief to all concerned, and did away with a long-standing grievance. Commissioners were appointed, who fixed the payment permanently in money, which was to fluctuate according to the varying value of certain of the old titheable products. In 1840 the tithes of Partney were permanently commuted at £211 2s. 6d., the owners of land and the Rector agreeing to this amount, and the same being confirmed by the Commissioners. Since 1878 tithe has been going steadily down. In 1896 the £211 2s. 6d. was only worth £148 2s. 0d.

In 1837 it was ordered "that the tythe be assessed to the poor rate."

#### THE RECTORS.

The rights of Bardney Abbey over Partney included the patronage of the Rectory.

The following are known to have held the Rectory, presented thereto by the Abbey of Bardney.

.... Richard de Halton.

Perhaps this is the same man that held the Rectory of Hagworthingham (also in the patronage of Bardney Abbey) from April, 1300, to February, 1301.\*

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\* It is also the name of the Rector of Mavis Enderby, 1281-1297 presented thereto by the Malbys family.

- 1322 Henry de Wadyngworth.  
A Subsidy Roll of 1327 refers to "Simon  
the Chaplain."  
.... Walter Toune.  
Died 1378.  
1378 Hugo de Hanworth, instituted July 30th.  
.... John Slakke.  
Died 1494.  
1494 Thomas Clerke, instituted March 24th.  
1499 John Cole.  
"Ordained presbyter March 31, 1499,  
on the title of his Rectory of Partney."  
Resigned 1517.  
1517 William Cole,  
who was Rector in 1535, when King  
Henry VIII.'s Valor Ecclesiasticus was  
drawn up.  
Bardney Abbey fell with the rest of the monastic  
institutions of England in 1540, and its rights over  
Partney passed to the Crown. The patronage seems  
to have fallen into private hands.  
1557 Thomas Ogle,\* instituted February 23rd.  
Presented by John More "for this turn  
only." Resigned in 1566.  
1566 Peter Key.  
Presented by John Wallgrave, of Part-  
ney, Gent.

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\* Thomas Ogle clericus presentatus per Johannem More ratione  
concessionis advocacionis ejusdem sibi et aliis pro hac vice factæ ad  
ecclesiam de Partney Linc. Dio. per mortem ultimi incumbentis  
vacantem xxiii February 1557 fuit admissus.

- 1574 John Englishe, instituted February 21st.  
Presented by John Dyon, Esq., "to whom the right of presentation was granted by John Wallgrave Gent."
- .... Christopher Diggles.  
Non-resident. His successor appears first as his Curate.
- 1587 John Deane.  
Referred to in the will of Nicholas Ormsby, 1590, as "Curate," *i.e.*, the person having the Cure of Souls, and is to receive from the testator "my Bible." He signs the transcripts of the parish register from 1598-1601 (now at Lincoln) as "Rector."
- 1601 Edward Salmon.  
(?) Presented by Sir William Wray, Knight. August 21, 1601, marriage licence granted to Edward Salmon and Mary Andrew of Bucknall.
- . 1606 Complained of for allowing the Rectory House to fall into decay. Resigned 1607.
- 1607 Robert Moodie (or Moody).  
Presented by Sir William Wray, Knight. Signs the Lincoln transcripts as Rector, 1618. Marriage licence granted to Robert Moody, of Partney, and Ann, daughter of William Searles, of Firsby, 1631, may refer to a son of his. Buried at Partney, April 4th, 1633.

- .... Stubbe, "Minister" in 1631.
- 1633 Richard Johnson.  
William Ablard signs the Lincoln transcripts as Curate in 1639.
- 1640 Richard Turton.
- 1644 Robert Hodson.  
Presented by John Bassett, Esq.
- 1662 John Hackley.  
Presented by Montague, 2nd Earl of Lindsey. Buried at Partney, December 3rd, 1684. In his will (proved January 14th, 1685) he mentions four sons, William, Thomas, John, and Henry, and a daughter Sarah, the last being left residuary legatee. The son Thomas, being then described as "of London," who died Nov. 4th, 1719, bequeathed £100 to the poor of the Parish of Partney, "where my Father was Minister."
- .... Bland.  
Mr. Flanner, endeavouring to compile a list of his predecessors, gives this name, and for the date adds "uncertain as the old register was destroyed."
- 1685 Francis Garthside.  
Mr. Flanner says "1709-25," and adds that he was "the last Rector to receive the tithes in kind." He appears to have been also Curate of Willoughby

and Vicar of Claxby. "Presented by Peregrine, Richard and Charles Bertie, Esq<sup>rs</sup>." These were the younger sons of Montague, 2nd Earl of Lindsey, who died in 1666. He left five sons, Robert, who succeeded to the title and estates ; Peregrine, a Captain in the army, who died in 1700, leaving three daughters ; Richard, also a Captain in the army, who died unmarried in 1685 (and this therefore fixes Mr. Garthside's appointment for that year) ; Vere, who became a Baron of the Exchequer and died unmarried 1680 ; and Charles, M.P. for Stamford, who died in 1711. A great-grandson of this last succeeded in 1809 to the Earldom of Lindsey.

1727 William Cawthorne, M.A.

Presented by Peregrine Bertie, 2nd Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven, 5th Earl of Lindsey, and 15th Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. Subsequently became Rector of Willoughby, and was buried there in 1753.

1728 Robert Owen, M.A.

Presented by the same. Was also Rector of Mablethorpe St. Peter. Resigned 1732. This latter benefice was consolidated with Theddlethorpe St. Helen in 1745.



1732 Roger Stevens, B.A., LL.B.

Presented by the same. Was resident Curate of Tydd St. Mary's, 1744-50. His name appears only once in the parish register, July 26th, 1762. The services at Partney were conducted by others :—

William Shepherd, also Vicar of Spilsby. Memorandum in the registers there :  
“ He entered minister of the parish, after he had been curate of the same to Mr. Smith 22 years, Michaelmas, 1736.”  
He died at Spilsby, and was buried there 1758.

Richard Vesey. He appears to have been also in charge of Dalby, and he was “minister” of Spilsby, 1758-1785. He died in 1785, aged 68, and was buried at Spilsby.

1780 Thomas Beaumont, B.A.

Presented by Lady Willoughby d'Eresby and her husband Sir Peter Burrell. He was also Rector of Raithby and Curate of Sausthorpe. He died September 25, 1781, aged 68.\* His name never appears in the Partney registers, and

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\* Mr. Beaumont married at Spilsby, May 3, 1760, Elizabeth (born 1737) younger daughter of Samuel Wright of Spilsby and Mary his wife (b. 1716, d. 1787), daughter of George Wright of Spilsby. Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont are both buried at Spilsby, and there is a mural tablet to their memory in the Church there.

services seem to have been taken by John Basker, who had been residing in the parish since 1778.

1782 Thomas Booth, M.A.

Presented by the same. Vicar of Friskney since 1777, Curate of Ashby 1787–1800, of West Keal 1790–1805. Resigned Partney and became Vicar of Spilsby, 1785. Married, 1777, Mary (b. 1756) eldest daughter of John Wright, Rector of Winceby: followed at Friskney by his son, Edward Booth. Buried at Spilsby Dec. 13, 1811, aged 64.

He very seldom took any duty in Partney, and William Tyler acted as his Curate 1782–1787. The latter was also Perpetual Curate of Dalby 1782–1808, Holder of the Donative of Haugh\* 1795–1803, Rector of Braytoft 1790–1808, and Rector of Ashby† 1806–1808. It is difficult for us to understand how he performed these multifarious duties, living at the time at Partney, but he has left behind him the reputation of a highly respected man and a popular

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\* Haugh became a Perpetual Curacy in 1848.

† Among memoranda in the Ashby Registers is the following:—"A large and small pew was erected in the Church under the belfry at the expence of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. William Tyler for the use of his family and servants, October 16, 1806."

preacher. At Dalby he erected a west gallery to accommodate his hearers, and sometimes in the summer-time he had to come out of Church and preach in the churchyard. Whenever he was officiating at Dalby his own Church was crammed and Partney empty. There is a mural tablet to his memory in Dalby Church, which gives his age at his death July 14th, 1808, as 59 years.

1785 William Tuting, B.A.

Presented by the same. He is believed to have been the first resident Rector for many years. His wife died in 1790, aged 27 years, and was buried "in the Church," where there is a mural tablet to her memory. In 1788 he had become Rector of Low Toynton near Horncastle, where he seems to have remained about 10 years.

1788 James Flanner, M.A.

Presented by the same. Also Curate of Dalby 1808-1814, and of West Keal 1792-1800.

The earliest Rector of whom personal recollections have been preserved, "tall, thin, and prematurely old." He died in 1814, aged 58, and there is a mural tablet to his memory in the chancel.

- 1814 Field Flowers, B.A. Brazenose College, Oxford.

Presented by the same. Died in 1818, aged 45. Buried with his wife and daughter at the entrance to the chancel. There is a tablet to his memory and also a stained glass window.

There appears to have been no Rector for over a year; Thos. Hardwick Rawnsley signs the registers as Curate.

- 1820 Thomas Hardwick Rawnsley, M.A.

Presented by the same. Curate of Dalby 1814-1817, West Keal 1817-1818, Partney 1818-1820, Vicar of Spilsby 1820-1825. Resigned Partney 1827. Rector of Halton Holgate 1825-1861. Buried at Halton. J.P. for Lindsey.

From 1825-1827 the services appear to have been taken by the Rev. Isaac Russell and the Rev. Thos. Hollway.

- 1827 Thomas Hollway, M.A. St. John's College, Cambridge.

Presented by the same. Vicar of Spilsby 1825-1854. Prebendary of Stow Longa in Lincoln Cathedral, 1843. J.P. for Lindsey. Resigned his preferments 1854, and retired to Leamington, where he died January 24th, 1879, aged 77. Buried at Gunby. The east window of Spilsby Church has been filled with stained glass to his memory.

Mr. Hollway employed as Curates in Partney :—

.... W. Braithwaite, B.A.

1838 W. A. Peacock, B.A., Corpus Christi College, Cambridge ; Rector of Ulceby-with-Fordington 1848–1877.

1844 H. J. Steventon, B.A.

1847 F. J. Hopkins, M.A. Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge. Vicar of Caxton St. Ives 1852.

1850 T. E. Miller, B.A.

1852 Robert Giles, B.A.

1854 Robert Giles, M.A., Exeter College, Oxford. Presented by the 21st Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. He restored the Church, enclosed the churchyard, and built the schools. Though he had charge of no other parish he took private pupils and was organising secretary for the S.P.G. for the Archdeaconry of Stow. He therefore employed as Curates :—

1865 J. H. Edmonds.

1866 George Moore, B.A.

1867 G. H. Butt, B.A.

In 1868 Mr. Giles became Vicar of Horncastle, where he died 1871.

1868 Joe Wood Bayldon, M.A., Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge. Presented by the 22nd Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. Chaplain to the Spilsby Union Workhouse,

1885-1888. Became Rector of Low Toynton near Horncastle.

1888 Edwin Allanson.

Presented by the Dowager Lady Aveland, in her own right 23rd Baroness Willoughby d'Eresby. Also Curate-in-Charge of Dalby : engaged a good deal in Home Mission work, and in 1893 went to Australia.

Employed as Curates :—

1891 Robert Whinney, B.A.

1892 James Swift, B.A.

1893 C. W. H. Reynolds.

1894 Gilbert George Walker, M.A., Worcester College, Oxford.

Presented by the 1st Earl of Ancaster, 24th Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. Also Curate-in-Charge of Dalby until, on the death of the Rev. T. Owston, Vicar, that benefice was consolidated with Partney (1895). The patronage of the consolidated benefice is now vested in the Earl of Ancaster two turns and the Bishop of Lincoln one turn.

#### OFFICIATING MINISTERS.

An Act of Parliament was passed in 1812 to secure regularity and uniformity in the keeping of parish registers, and provided a form for both baptisms and burials, in which (as had already for some time been

the case with marriages) the name of the officiating minister was to be inserted. The names of the following clergymen therefore not directly connected with the parish appear in our registers from 1812-1896.

John Tretwell	Rector of Raithby 1801-1829
Francis Mead, D.D.	Rector of Candlesby 18 -1834
Michael Hare	Curate of Dalby 1817
R. Ward	
J. Brackenbury	
Henry Brackenbury	Rector of Scremby 1817-1862
Isaac Russell	Master of the Spilsby Grammar School
Henry Dawson	
Field Flowers, junior	Vicar of Tealby 1835
George Orme	
George Street	Rector of Langton 1800-1856
Joseph Walls	
William Singleton	
John Banks	Perpetual Curate of Dalby 1808-1841
John Cheales	Vicar of Skendleby 1841-1866
Thomas Whitworth	Vicar of Thorpe 1843-1889
John E. Norris	Rector of Ashby 1842.
T. L. Edwards	
A. C. Brackenbury	
R. D. B. Rawnsley	Rector of Halton 1861-1884
William Morley	Rector of Mavis Enderby 1834-1869
L. D. Kennedy	Rector of Theddlethorpe St. Helen's 1861-1885

Edward Rawnsley	Vicar of Hundleby 1849-1860
John Frederick Bourne	
Thomas Owston	Rector of Sutterby, 1848-1894
W. V. Turner	Vicar of Spilsby 1854-1873
Felix Laurent	Vicar of Saleby 1847-1878
Henry Hansell	Curate of Halton 1855
Henry Watson	Rector of Langton 1857-1872
Arthur Wright	Vicar of Welton 1857-1871
J. D. Giles	Archdeacon of Stow
A. R. Maddison	Curate of Croft 1867-1870
H. J. Cheales	Vicar of Skendleby 1866-1867
C. G. Ridley	Master of the Spilsby Grammar School 1856-1881
F. H. Swan	Rector of Aswardby 1851-1882
W. W. Layng	Vicar of Spilsby 1873-1885
T. W. Sale	Vicar of Skendleby 1873-1884
H. Cotton Smith	Curate of Spilsby, 1888-1891

#### THE RECTORY HOUSE.

For many years there has been no Rectory House. The will of William Brasse (A.D. 1528) refers to "the Church Howys," and if this means the Rectory the context shows that it stood, as was generally the case in this district, to the north of the Church, and contiguous to the churchyard. In 1606, as we have seen, the then Rector was complained of for "decay of the Rectory House," but whether anything was done in consequence we have no means of knowing. Mr. Moody, Rector, was buried in the churchyard in 1633, and had presumably lived in the parish ; and we





PARTNEY RECTORY.



are drawn to the same conclusion about Mr. Hackley, who was buried in 1684. Mr. Garthside seems to have lived at Willoughby or Claxby, though the "terrier" given above and drawn up in his time mentions on the glebe "a house and onsett" (*i.e.* out-buildings). In 1740 William Bellamy, of Goulsby, became tenant of "a house and 3 acres of pasture in Partney of the Rev. Mr. Stevens, it being gleab pays the town's charges at £5 10s. od. a year." Indeed, it was not until Mr. Tuting came into residence in 1787, two years after his appointment, that a house was wanted again, for Mr. Stevens' deputies, Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Vesey, lived at Spilsby and are both buried there. Mr. Tuting was probably the last Rector to live in the old Rectory, which some persons still living can remember as a house of mud and stud, used as a labourer's cottage and standing in what is still glebe, though let as part of the Hall kitchen garden. Mr. Flanner lived in a house of his own near the old Rectory, but on the west side of the Hall gardens. After his decease it was purchased from his executors by Colonel Maddison, who pulled down the premises and added the land to the Hall grounds. Mr. Tyler, Curate-in-Charge from 1782–1787, occupied the house near Partney Church, wherein Mr. A. Hodgson has lived for many years, and he continued to reside there till his death in 1808, and while his parochial duties were concerned with Bratoft, Ashby, Dalby, and Haugh. Mr. Flowers lived in the house lately purchased for a Rectory, and

his widow continued to reside there after his death. Mr. Hollway lived at Hundleby and Spilsby, but his Curates lived in Partney. When Mr. Giles became Rector he purchased the house which had belonged to Mr. Flowers, and on his departure for Horncastle sold it to his successor, Mr. Bayldon, from whom, in 1895, it was purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Though not strictly speaking the Rectory until this latter year, it has been occupied continuously by Rectors of the parish since 1854.\* The money for the purchase and repairs was provided by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who receive the tithes on Dalby, and as part of the scheme for the improvement of the consolidated benefice.

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\* The occupants of this house for the last 100 years are believed to have been the following :—Mr. Peregrine Emmitt ; Mr. John Louth ; Mr. Charles Barton ; 1814, Rev. F. Flowers ; 1818, Mrs. Flowers (widow) ; 1831, Mr. Francis Thurkell ; 1835, Dr. Stafford ; Mr. John Heanley ; 1852, Rev. R. Giles ; 1868, Rev. J. W. Bayldon ; 1888, Rev. E. Allanson ; 1893, Rev. C. W. H. Reynolds ; 1894, Rev. G. G. Walker.






## CHAPTER IV.

### OTHER RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS.

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#### THE ANGLO-SAXON ABBEY.

ARTNEY has the honour of being alluded to by one of the earliest of English historians, the Venerable Bede, who died in 735. Twice in his *Ecclesiastical History of the Anglo-Saxons* he alludes to an Abbey at "Peartenai." We think at once of the easy confusion of the two names Partney and Bardney, and it is so much easier to connect the references with the latter, where we know there was an Abbey, than with the former, for which we have no independent records whatever. Bede gives us the names of two Abbots. One of them, Deda, was personally known to him, and gave him some interesting information as to the personal appearance of Paulinus (a companion of Augustine in the conversion of England) which he had obtained from an old man who had himself been baptised by the Bishop. The other was Alcuin,

whose sister Ethelhilda was an Abbess in the same neighbourhood, and was still living when Bede wrote. One must feel on reading the second of the two passages, which are given in full in the Appendix, that the author at least regarded Bardney and Partney as two separate places.

#### THE CELL TO THE ABBEY OF BARDNEY.

In addition to the right of patronage of the Rectory and the possession of certain lands and rents in the parish, the Abbey of Bardney also had a "cell" here. It is fair to presume that it was in the fields still known as "The Monks."

The first mention of it is in 1318. Robert de Waynfleet, who had been Abbot since 1280, was deposed in 1303, but soon after restored. In 1318 he was again deposed, when "the Church and manor of Steeping, the vill of Partney, together with the cells of Partney and Skendleby, were assigned for his support."\*

A subsidy roll of 1327 mentions among the contributors from Partney Simon the Chaplain, who may very likely have been connected with this foundation.

So, too, may John Richardson, Chaplain, whom "Honestus vir Radulphus Grene de Parteney" pre-

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\* So, about 1095, Serlo de Percy retired from the position of Prior of Whitby to the cell of All Saints at York. Whitby was then constituted an Abbey, with William de Percy for its first Abbot.—Atkinson's *Memorials of Old Whitby*.

sented to the Chantry of St. Katherine at Saltfleet in 1527. But this is very doubtful, for we hear bad accounts of the Chapel long before that.

On September 8, 1491, an inquisition was taken at Partney on the question of the mental condition of a certain Bernard Eland, and to their finding on that matter the jurors added a rider :

“Also they say that the Abbot of Bardney has of the foundation of the ancestors of the said Lord the King a Chapel in Skendleby and a Chapel in Partney, which are now totally devastated, and the same Abbot and his successors ought to find monks annually to pray and to celebrate the divine services of God there for the good estate of the said lord the king, his ancestors, his heirs and successors for ever, which the Abbot and his predecessors have withdrawn for the space of 30 years or more.”\*

#### THE HOSPITAL.

Allusion has already been made to the Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen as existing here in the time of Walter de Gaunt (1090-1138). His gifts to Bardney Abbey speak of the Hospital as already existing, but to discover the exact date of its foundation seems hopeless. Of course, we must not understand it to have been a hospital in the modern sense of the term. “The endowed Hospitals of Mediæval England,” says

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\* “Chancery Inquisitions Henry VII.,” *Lincolnshire Architectural Society*, p. 75.

Dr. Creighton,\* “were . . . a general provision under religious discipline for the infirm and sick poor, for infirm or ailing monks or clergy, and here and there for decayed gentlefolk. The earliest of them that is known, St. Leonard’s at York, founded in 956 by King Athelstan, and enlarged more especially on its religious side by King Stephen, was a great establishment for the relief of the poor. . . . It provided for 206 Bedesmen, and was served by a master and 13 brethren, 4 seculars, 8 sisters, 30 choristers, and 6 servitors.” It is to this same period, the reign of Stephen, that we owe, if not the actual foundation, yet, at least, the fixing on a more legal and permanent basis of the Hospital at Partney. Philanthropy, like all other things, seems to have its fashion. At one time those who are anxious to devote the wealth they may possess for the best good of their fellow men, found or endow one of the different forms of monastic institutions, Benedictine, Cistercian, Gilbertine, as seems best to commend itself to them. At another it is the Friars who seem to have the best claim, and Dominicans, Franciscans, and Carmelites, who at first repudiated the notion of religious men living as the monks did, soon found themselves as splendidly housed and equally rich. Further down it is education that attracts. Of the twenty-three Colleges and Halls in the University of Oxford, nine were established or re-endowed between the years 1509

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\* *History of Epidemics in Britain*, by C. Creighton, M.A., M.D.



and 1624, while our Grammar Schools, in most cases, trace back their endowments to the same period. In King Stephen's time it was the Hospital as a form of charity that most successfully appealed. His Charter\* to Partney may be thus translated. "Stephen King of England to the Bishop of Lincoln, to his justices, barons, sheriffs, and all his servants and faithful men French and English greeting :—I would have you know that I have granted and confirmed to God and to the Hospital of Partney all the lands properties and gifts which the barons, vassals, and nobles of my land who have their lands freehold, have given or shall hereafter give to God and the same Hospital whether in lands or other property or in rents or goods. Wherefore I will and firmly establish it that the aforesaid Hospital and its guardians and all dwelling there and continuing to do so who shall live according to its regulations and those who come thither and stay there a while and return home again shall have my peace and protection that they be in no way disturbed."

But beyond proving to us definitely the existence of the place this charter gives no information of real value about the Hospital, no names are mentioned as founders and benefactors, and no estates or other property particularised. We do, however, get to know something of the latter details in a document which dates from the reign of King John. The

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\* For the original Latin see Appendix.

following summary of it is given in Volume of Final Concords relating to Lincolnshire.\*

“On the morrow of All Souls 10 John (3 November A.D. 1208). Between Osbert Master of the Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen of Partenay, plaintiff and Henry Bec, tenant of 2 bovates of land and a toft in Greinby and of half a bovat of land in Laisingtorp. The Master acknowledged the said land and toft to be the fee of the said Henry and for this Henry granted to the said Hospital 2 bovates of land and a toft in Laisingtorp. To wit, the bovat and toft which Roger Cook held: half a bovat which Alan the Carpenter held: and half a bovat which Robert the Carpenter held. Except a toft which pertains to that half bovat which Alan the Carpenter held and another toft which pertains to that half bovat which Robert the Carpenter held. So nevertheless that the said Master and his successors shall hold the residue of the said 2 bovates of the said Henry and his heirs for ever in pure and perpetual alms free and quit from all secular service and exaction.”

The upshot of this arrangement, then, was that the Master and brethren of the Hospital gave up all claim to a copyhold estate, as we should call it, consisting of a farmstead † and thirty acres of land in Greinby

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\* “Lincolnshire Records,” *Final Concords*, Vol. i., p. 82. Edited by Rev. W. O. Massingberd. I have quoted the Latin in full from Dugdale in the Appendix.

† “It is of importance to remember that the toft was the special site of the ancient dwelling place of whatever grade, short, perhaps, of the

and seven acres in Laisingtorp with their rights of common pasture and wood, on which they were liable to the usual feudal dues, and received in exchange a freehold estate of a farmstead and thirty acres in Laisingtorp, the tenants at the time being Roger Cook, who occupied a farmstead and fifteen acres ; Alan the Carpenter, who occupied a further seven acres ; and Robert the Carpenter, who also occupied the same amount, it being expressly reserved that the farmsteads still belonged to Henry Bec.

The family of Bec had been connected with this neighbourhood since the latter half of the 12th century, and there is a sepulchral slab to one of them in Halton Church.\* There was a Henry Bec at Eresby in 1200. He was followed by a son Walter, and grandson John. The latter obtained a licence to "crenellate" Eresby, and died in 1303. He was the first Baron Bec of Eresby, and his daughter Alice took the title and estates into the Willoughby family.

After this all trace of the Hospital is lost. It had already become part of the property of Bardney Abbey by the grant of Walter de Gaunt before 1138, and doubtless became merged in the Abbey estates. The foregoing notice from King John's time is suffi-

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manor house itself, whether it might be a cottage or hut, or abode of somewhat greater pretension. But the word site just used must be qualified in this way : the toft was not the mere area occupied by the actual edifice : it was the area within which, with a margin, and possibly a considerable margin, round the edifice, the dwelling actually stood."—Atkinson's *Memorials of Old Whitby*, p. 172.

\* "Sire Walter Bec jist ici de ki alme Deus ait merci."

cient to show that at that period its possessions were kept distinct, but there would naturally be a tendency for all properties of the Abbey to be merged in one estate, and the special object of the Hospital's existence was after all only a department of monastic work. In every Abbey or Convent, hospitality was a religious duty, and lands were sometimes left to such institutions, "ad hospitandum pauperes," for the purpose of enabling them to treat poor persons as guests.

Nor can we be certain about the site of the Partney Hospital. The name of Chantry Garth for a field between the Red Lion Inn and the present Rectory seems to point to some religious foundation having existed there. The Hospital may have included the Inn premises, and if so they have been set apart as a place of rest and refreshment for strangers, for as long a period probably as any in England. We must, however, remember that "the real meaning of Garth is fence, whatever the material employed in making it—earth, stones, wood, hedging stuff, or what not—fence and fence only."\* Between the paddock now called the Chantry Garth and the premises of the modern Rectory there is an artificial bank of considerable size and so old that a row of large beech trees now grows on the top of it. Strictly speaking, then, this bank is the Chantry Garth. Its work as fence is, in the first place, the protection of the present Rectory garden, and this seems to mean

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\* Dr. Atkinson's *Memorials of Old Whitby*, p. 45.

that the Rectory premises are on the site of the old Chantry or Hospital, if they be identical. Further, these premises are at the corner of the meeting of cross roads, and in a natural position for a place of rest and refreshment for wayfarers. Then, again, we find the present house flush with the road—a most unusual position for a house of that size in a country village—while beyond the road is a small strip, not separated from the field of which it now forms a part by any fence, but belonging to the Lord of the Manor. That which is now the main road of entrance into the village from the east is not the old one, which went north of the Church and is now represented by a mere lane. May it not be that, at the suppression of the Hospital, what had been only a private road to it was continued into the village and through the churchyard, and then at subsequent sales of the property the piece to the north of this road, which really belonged to it, became permanently detached?





## CHAPTER V.

### LANDOWNERS AND INHABITANTS.

**A**LTHOUGH this is the most extensive part of our subject, we have, after all, but few authorities to apply to, and scant sources for the information we are in search of. Parochial records are seldom anything more than the parish registers, which, in the form of a tattered and almost undecipherable piece of parchment, may perhaps go back to 1538. But this obviously can only give us information about the last 300 years, and we naturally should wish to carry back our history of the parish to, at least as far as we consider the history of our country to be authentic, say, the Norman Conquest, or 500 years earlier than the institution of parish registers. Our knowledge of things parochial, unless we are fortunate enough to possess from private sources some documents of early date, must be derived from public records which will probably only mention incidentally the particular parish in which we are interested. We naturally

begin our account with an extract from *Domesday Book*. In this most important record \* Partney is mentioned twice ; (1) under the lands of Gilbert de Gaunt and (2) under those of Robert Despencer. Gilbert de Gaunt (Ghent or Gant) was one of those valiant Flemings who settled on the east coast of northern Britain in the 11th century. He was the son of Baldwin, Earl of Flanders, whose sister William the Conqueror married. He was a brave soldier and a notable man. In the terrible slaughter of the Normans at York in 1069 by the Danes and the remnant of the English, who had taken refuge in the fens of Lincolnshire and Ely, he was one of the few that escaped. By the favour of William he received large estates, and, besides property in other counties, was granted 113 manors in Lincolnshire. He helped to refound Bardney Abbey, which had been destroyed by the Danes, and, as has been already mentioned, endowed it with some of his lands in Partney. He is believed to have died about 1090, and to have been

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\* *Domesday Book* contains the results of a Survey made of the whole of England, with the exception of the four northern counties, in 1085-86. It enumerates the tenants in chief, under tenants, freeholders and serfs, the nature and obligations of their tenure, and their values in King Edward's reign and at the date of the Survey. The returns were transmitted to Winchester, and the name Domesday has been thought to be derived from the Chapel or Domus Dei there in which they were placed. Another explanation would connect it with Doom—a judgment or decision, and finds confirmation of this in its Latin name, *Liber Judicalis*. It is one of the most valuable records in the world. No other nation possesses such a book. The portion relating to Lincolnshire was translated and published by Mr. C. C. Smith in 1870.



buried at Bardney. His property here is thus described (of course the original is in Latin): "In Partene soke there are 5 carucates of land rateable to gelt. The land is as many carucates. Gilbert de Gaunt has there 17 sokemen and 27 bordars with 5 carucates. There is a market worth 10/- yearly and there is a meadow of 100 acres." But, even after translation, this extract needs some explanation to make it intelligible. The 17 sokemen are tenants who came under the jurisdiction of the Baronial Court. There were also 27 bordars or smaller tenants, who would hold probably not more than 5 acres each. These tenants imply 44 households, or a population of about 220. A carucate rateable to gelt is the unit of assessed arable land. It is the area that one plough drawn by four oxen can till annually, the word itself being introduced by the Normans. As to what the actual quantity was, writers on the subject by no means agree, but the weight of evidence seems to lie with the idea that it was the same as the "hide," 100 acres, that is, the long hundred of old English measure, 6 score or 120 acres. Five carucates, therefore, and 100 acres of meadow account for some 700 acres of land in Partney. The market will be dealt with better when we come to speak of the fairs in a later chapter. The second entry is under the lands of Robert Dispensator (Despencer), that is steward. He held in Lincolnshire fifteen Lordships, among them Guldesmere (now Ingoldmells). As soke to this manor, that is, coming under its jurisdiction,



there were "In Partenai, Stepinge, Tric,\* and Burg 2 carucates and a half of land, rateable to gelt. The land is as many carucates. 5 sokemen and 2 villeins have there half a carucate and 30 acres of meadow." As this refers to property in four different parishes, it is impossible to say how much it adds to the acreage or population of Partney.

We must endeavour first to trace the history of the de Gaunt estate. The original owner, as has been said, died about 1090. He was succeeded by his son Walter, who owned in Candleshoe 48 carucates of land. He died in 1138, and was followed by his son Gilbert, who died in 1160. This second Gilbert married Rohaise (or Hawise) daughter, and at length heiress, of William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln. Their children were two daughters, Alice and Gunnora. The former married Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton and of Huntingdon, who died without issue in 1184.† Gunnora married Robert de Valoines, and is generally stated to have also died without issue, and the inheritance appears to have reverted‡ to a cousin, a third Gilbert, son of Robert half brother of the 2nd Gilbert, and his wife Gunnora

\* There is no doubt but that this means Skegness, though the translator of *Domesday Book for Lincolnshire* has rendered it Langrick.

† Henry II. thereupon restored the earldom of Huntingdon to William, King of Scotland, who transferred it to his younger brother David, who had married Earl Simon's widow.

‡ "Unde hereditas ad Robertum fratrem dicti Gilberti revertēbat." —Dugdale quoting "Stemma fundatoris" of Bardney Abbey.

de Gournay, for about the year 1213\* he was holding  $4\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in Partney out of the 5 mentioned in *Domesday*, and Eustace de Vesci was his tenant holding under him the 3rd part of a knight's fee. At the same time it was stated that the ancestors of the said Gilbert had given a bovate and a half of land (in puram eleemosinam) to the Hospital at Partney, and William the priest's brother held it by the service of issuing summonses to the tenants of the manorial court.† The estates also include  $4\frac{1}{2}$  carucates in Orby and Addlethorpe, and John de Orby held them by performing the office of Constable‡ to the said Gilbert. This Gilbert joined the discontented Barons against King John, and having been taken prisoner at Lincoln in 1216 was divested of the title of Earl of Lincoln, which had been given him by Prince Louis of France, then a claimant for the throne of England. He is sometimes known as "the good." He confirmed all the grants which his ancestors had bestowed on Bardney Abbey, including "In Partney the Church of St. Nicholas with its appurtenances and the Chapel of St. Mary with its appurtenances and the Hospital of that place with its appurtenances."§ At his death

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\* *Testa de Neville*, p. 334.

† No doubt the piece referred to later as Summonerland.

‡ The Constable possessed considerable power within the precincts of the manor, and held trials of criminal charge. As Constables of castles, or castellans, they frequently received prisoners, whom they might, and often did, deal with severely. Magna Charta, in 1215, conferred a great boon on the people by depriving such persons of the power to try prisoners.

§ Dugdale's *Monasticon*.

in 1242 he was succeeded by his son, a fourth Gilbert, who died in 1274 and was buried at Bridlington. He was followed by his son, a fifth Gilbert, and this brings us down to the times of Edward I. (1272-1307). At the beginning of his reign this king issued his writs "quo warranto,"\* requiring every nobleman to produce his title to his estates. Gilbert de Gaunt appeared before the king's justices and claimed (amongst other things) that the manor of Partney was his, and that he was entitled to the profits on the fairs and markets, and in 1276 Henry de Lacy,† who, as we shall presently see, had certain lands in Partney, while claiming for himself the right of free warren over his own and other people's lands in Ingoldmells and elsewhere, acknowledged that Gilbert de Gaunt had similar rights in Partney and Dalby. This Gilbert in 1286 made an exchange with the Abbey of Bardney, giving up certain lands in Partney worth 30<sup>/-</sup>, and taking the mill at Bradham in Skendleby. He died in 1297, and at an inquisition ‡ held on the Monday after Ascension Day, 1298, he was found by the jurors to have possessed "the manor of Skendleby with its members Thorpe and Partney, held in chief by barony with Folkyngham, Heckyngton, Barton and Edenham which manors except Skendleby belong to the King by reversion after the death of the said Gilbert : value £43 7s. 10d." The

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\* *Placita de quo warranto*, Edward I., Rolls Series, p. 424.

† *Hundred Rolls*, Edward I., p. 369.

‡ *Chancery Inq., post mortem*, 26 Edward I., No. 38.

jurors also found "that Roger de Kerdeston, Peter son of Peter de Mauley, and Juliana de Gaunt sister of the said Gilbert were his heirs." His widow was Laura de Balliol, who died in 1309. King Edward gave the de Gaunt Fee to Henry Beaumont. He died in 1340,\* when "Partenaye" was one of his 72 Lordships. His grandson Henry died in 1369,† possessing Partney among his "fœda de Gaunt." Then his son John, who died in 1397,‡ held the third part of a fee with the heirs of William Thorpe and Walter Countevill for his tenants, and one fee with Roger Cromwell for tenant. His son Henry, the fifth Baron Beaumont, married Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, and when he died in 1413 he possessed a manor in Partney. But by this time the rights of the Lord of the Manor had become very limited, and his immediate tenants were for all practical purposes owners of the land, only paying some small quit rent. Eustace Fitzjohn, who was killed in 1157, had had confirmed to him part of the fee of Gilbert de Gaunt, including Partney. His son William took the name of Vesci, and in 1166 held a third part of one fee under Earl Simon de St. Liz. In 1213 Eustace de Vesci was holding the same amount under Gilbert de Gaunt the third, to whom, as has been said, the de Gaunt inheritance eventually reverted. Later, Robert de Sausthorpe and Walter de

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\* *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. ii., p. 94.

†       "       "       "       Vol. ii., p. 338.

‡       "       "       "       Vol. iii., p. 198.

Gaunceville were tenants, and in 1432 an Inquisition was held at Burgh-le-marsh on "the Saturday before the Feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist," and the jurors found that "the Lord of Willoughby holds in Partney one third fee formerly Robert de Partenay of the fee of Gaunt."\* Presumably by this Robert de Partenay is meant Robert de Sausthorpe or one of his descendants, and it looks as though the Willoughbys were now holding the one third fee of the Gaunts formerly held by the Vescies.

But some of the lands and profits of Partney had not passed to the Beaumonts but continued with the Skendleby property, to which the sisters (or their children) of Gilbert de Gaunt the fifth succeeded. These had been Margaret, wife of William de Kerdeston, Nichola, wife of Peter de Mauley, and Juliana, unmarried. This last appears to have joined the Nunnery of Nun Cotham, or at least to have left her property to it. When Bishop John Longland† (Bishop of Lincoln 1521-1547) issued in 1532 a set of injunctions to the Nunnery, one of these was: "And such obits and chantries as your house is bound to keep as the chantry of Juliana Gaunt, dame

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\* *Exchequer Q. R. Miscellaneous Book*, Vol. iv.

† This nunnery, which was situated in the parish of Keelby near Great Grimsby, was founded in the reign of Henry I. for a prioress and 12 nuns. In the "Life of Bishop Longland" by the late Archdeacen Perry, and published in the *Lincoln Diocesan Magazine*, there is a very interesting account of his visitation of the various monastic institutions of his Diocese. The injunctions to Nun Cotham were given in the number of the Magazine for Sept., 1894.

Margaret Ousby her kinswoman and other be sufficiently and accordingly maintained." When this house was suppressed its property included \* from Partney 12s. 4d. for rent of land, and 6s. 8d. for tolls of the fairs. There were also from Skendleby and Partney manorial dues worth 8s. 10d., and in Skendleby land worth £11 6s. 7d.

Margaret de Kerdeston left a son Roger,† who died 1337. He was succeeded by his son William, who was present at the battle of Crecy. He died in 1360, possessing "lands and tenements in Well Park and Partenay."‡ He left three children, a son William and two daughters, Margaret, wife of William Tending, and Maud, wife of Sir John Burghersh. In 1392 we find that the latter owned § "Skendleby manor the third part : Partney the 18th part of the profits on the fairs and market and also one rood and the 3rd part of 2 acres of meadow." His son, also a John, married Ismania, daughter of Simon Hanap, and in 1421, she was declared || to have owned "Skendleby Manor the 3rd part : Partney, part of the profits of the fairs and market under the Castle of Falkingham." This Sir John Burghersh and his

\* Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. v., p. 678.

† Kerdeston is the name of a small parish in Norfolk, ecclesiastically united with Reepham. In the church of the latter is a monument to this Roger.

‡ *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. ii., p. 233.

§ " " " " Vol. iii., p. 133.

|| " " " " Vol. iv., p. 56.

wife left two daughters, Margaret, who married firstly Sir John Greenville and secondly Sir John Arundel, and Maud, who married Thomas, son of the poet Geoffrey Chaucer, and so connects Partney with a very illustrious name. In 1424 Sir John Arundel de Bidford owned \* part of the manor of Skendleby and an annual rent in Partney. In 1435 Thomas Chaucer and Matilda his wife owned † “half the manor of Skendleby, and one eighteenth part of the profits of the fairs and market at Partney and a rent charge of 5/-.” This was all they possessed in Lincolnshire. Their only daughter, Alice, married firstly Sir John Philip and secondly William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, and in the early part of his reign chief adviser of Henry VI. Things seemed to turn out unhappily during his period of power, and he became very unpopular. Riots occurred in several places, and in 1450 he was impeached and banished for five years. This did not satisfy the resentment of his enemies, and on his way to Calais the ship was boarded and he was taken out of it. After a mock trial he was put into a small boat and beheaded. His body was flung on the sea shore near Dover. The King ordered it to be given to his widow, who buried it in the church of Wingfield in Suffolk.

Meanwhile the Orby family had acquired lands here. Sir John de Orby, who died ‡ in 1296, owned

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\* *Inquisitions, post mortem*, Vol. iv., p. 79.

†       “       “       “       Vol. iv., pp. 160, 177.

‡       “       “       “       Vol. i., p. 143.



the manor of Dalby with lands in Partney, Dexthorpe, and elsewhere. His daughter Alice married Robert de Willoughby, and their great-grandson John, together with Edward Somerville and Alured de Salney, was found to be heir to the John de Orby who died in 1316. The three are said to have divided the estates between them.

The Partney portion of this manor of Dalby can only have been something small. It will be sufficient to trace its history, together with the Dalby lands, in the chapter more especially devoted to the latter.

At this point it will be best to return to the fortunes of the smaller property, mentioned in *Domesday Book*, as belonging to Robert Despencer. The somewhat vexed question as to his identity with the ancestor of the Marmions,\* and the difficulty of understanding who his descendants really were, need not concern us here. There is no doubt but that before the year 1100 his brother Urso d'Abitot, Sheriff of Worcester, was holding this property, and he exchanged it with Robert de Lacy for land at Wacton in Hereford. The following charter † confirms this exchange. "Willelmus Rex Angliæ Roberto

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\* See Canon Lodge's *History of Scrivelshy*.

† *Duchy of Lancaster Royal Charters*, No. 1. "William King of England to Robert (Blouet) Bishop of Lincoln (1093-1123) Osbert Sheriff of Lincoln and to his barons and faithful men French and English greeting. I would have you know that I allow the exchange which Urso d'Abitot and Robert de Lacy have made concerning Ingoldmells and Wacton. Witnesses Robert Bishop of Lincoln and R. Fitzhamon at Brigstock."



Episcopo Lincolniensi Osberto Vicecomiti Lincolnie et baronibus suis et fidelibus Francis et Angiliis satutem. Sciatis quod concedo excambium quod fecerit Urso d'Abitot et Robertus d'Lacio de Ingoldmera et Wicchona. Testibus Roberto Episcopo Lincolniensi et R. Fitzhamon apud Brigstock."

The lands of the de Lacys were, however, forfeited by rebellion, when they took the side of Duke Robert against his brother Henry I., and about 1114 were held by Hugh de Vallo (de Valoines or de la Val) whose lands in Candleshoe in 1108 had amounted to 4 carucates and 6 bovates. Ilbert de Lacy is said to have re-obtained from Stephen the Barony of Pontefract, which had been held by his father Robert, who made the exchange with Urso d'Abitot, and by his grandfather Ilbert, to whom the Barony had been originally granted by William the Conqueror. The Ingoldmells manor seems, however, to have remained sometime longer with the de la Vals, probably until after the death of Guy de la Val in 1199. In 1166 this Guy held 20 of the 60 Knights' fees of the Honour of Pontefract, Henry de Lacy holding the other 40, and he presented on one occasion to the Rectory of Skegness, as Lord of the Manor of Ingoldmells. In the reign of Henry II. there was also a Roger de Valoines, who left two sons, Geoffrey, who died about 1184, and Philip, who died about 1195, leaving a daughter Gunnora, wife to Robert Fitzwalter, leader of the Barons against King John. In 1209 what is called an Assize Mort d'Ancestor was

held \* to enquire if Geoffrey de Valoines, uncle of Gunnora, wife of Robert Fitzwalter, possessed the manor of Partney at his death, which land Philip de Valoines was then holding. An attorney appeared for the latter to protest against his being regarded as holding the whole of the manor of Partney with its appurtenances, and so being liable to all the charges upon it, because Earl David (of Huntingdon) held part, namely, the moiety of the market.

Meanwhile the second Ilbert de Lacy was succeeded by his brother Robert, who died in 1193, when his nephew John Fitz Eustace became his heir and took the name of Lacy. He was followed by his son Roger, who died in 1206, and about the year 1213 his widow Matilda † was found to hold 2 carucates

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\* *Abbreviatio Placitorum* : John ; Rolls Series, p. 59. "Assize came to recognise if Geoffrey de Valoines uncle of Gunnora wife of Robert Fitzwalter was possessed in demesne &c. as of the manor of Partenay, on the day of his death, which land Philip de Valoines now holds. His attorney says that the assize ought not to go against him because he does not himself hold all the manor of Partenay with its appurtenances, because Earl David holds part namely the moiety of the market."

The explanation must be looked for in the fact that he had succeeded to some of the titles and presumably some of the rights of Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton and Huntingdon, especially as husband of his widow.

† *Testa de Neville*, p. 334. "Domina Matilda de Lacy tenet de domino Rege in Ingoldvoles et in Schekenessa et in Steeping et in Burgh et in Ptenay iii carucates dimidium bovati minus sed nescimus per quod servitium."

*Testa de Neville*, p. 329. "Walterus de Marescale tenet Villam de Ingoldmells, Ptenay, Burgh, Stepinge, Skeggness de domino Rege in capite de honore de Pumfrays sed nescit pro quanto defendit illum verum dominum regem." It is obvious that these notices refer to exactly the same property as had been Robert Despencer's at the time of the Domesday Survey.

and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  bovates in Ingoldmells, Skegness, Steeping, Burgh, and Partney. Henry III. bestowed upon her son John de Lacy the earldom of Lincoln, which Louis of France, as has been said, had bestowed on Gilbert de Gaunt, and after his death in 1240 his widow Margaret de Quincey held this fee as dower and took it to her second husband, Walter de Mareschal. He succeeded his brother Gilbert as Earl of Pembroke in 1241, and died in 1245. The manor of Ingoldmells passed eventually with other Lacy property to the Dukes of Lancaster\* and so to the Crown. It was sold by King Charles I. to the Corporation of the City of London, and in 1658 was purchased by Sir Drayner Massingberd of South Ormsby, to whose descendants it still belongs.†

But some, if not all, of the Partney lands of the manor had been alienated before these changes of ownership took place. In 1296 it was found that there was £84 12s.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. owing to the Earl of Lincoln, and of this amount "Richard formerly Reeve owes 39s.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and it is put in respite until discussion is held touching a certain farm (*i.e.* annual rent) of 32 pence which the Lord John Bec holds in Partenay for which he is charged in the sum of the

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\* John de Lacy and Margaret de Quincey (afterwards wife of Walter Mareschal) had a son, Edmund de Lacy, who died in 1157, and was succeeded by his son Henry de Lacy 3rd Earl of Lincoln of this family. He died in 1312, leaving only a daughter Alice, who married Thomas Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster, son of Edmund, second son of Henry III.

† *History of Ormsby*, by Rev. W. O. Massingberd, p. 161.

farms."\* Afterwards the Lord John Bec showed the feoffment (enfranchisement) of the Earl, by which the Earl grants to the same John and his heirs the rent of the said 32 pence. "Therefore from henceforth let it be deleted from the account." John Bec died in 1303, and shortly before his death† acknowledged his lands in Partney, Ashby, Fulletby, &c., part of the manor of Eresby to be the right of Robert de Willoughby, son of his daughter Alice and Sir William Willoughby her husband. This Robert was found at his death‡ in 1316 to have "certain lands and tenements in Partney and Toynton of the Earl of Lincoln." John de Willoughby was his son and heir. The quotation given above shows how shadowy had become any claims of the earl over this particular property, and henceforth we may regard the Despencer lands in Partney as merged in those of the Lords Willoughby de Eresby.

We may consider this John de Willoughby as founder of the fortunes of his family. In right of his great-grandmother he succeeded to a portion of the estates of John de Orby, and in right of his grandmother to those of John Lord Bec of Eresby and his more wealthy brother Anthony Bec, Bishop of Durham. The original holding in Partney was very small. Robert de Willoughby, son of Alice de Bec,

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\* *Duchy of Lancaster Ministers' Accounts*, 23 and 24 Edward I.

† *Harleian Charters*, 45 H. 18.

‡ *Chancery Inquisitions, post mortem*, 10 Edward II., No. 78.

dying in 1316 was found\* to have held but “9½ acres of meadow, part of the tolls of the fairs, and 7s. 3d. annual rent.” Presumably this included the “32 pence” about which enquiry had been made in 1296. In 1313 Robert de Willoughby had been summoned by writ† to a seat in Parliament, and since his time there has always been a Barony of Willoughby d'Eresby, though sometimes merged in higher titles, among the Peers of England. John, the second lord, fought at Crecy in 1346, and endowed the chantry of the Holy Trinity at Spilsby. He died in 1348, and is commemorated in the first of the series‡ of Willoughby monuments in Spilsby Church.

His son John was accounted one of the most distinguished Knights of his time. He fought at Poitiers in 1356, and died in 1372. There is a very beautiful tomb to his memory in Spilsby Church. At his death§ he was found to have owned a manor at Partney as part of his manor of West Keal. He was succeeded by his son Robert, whose arms are on the tower of West Keal Church, and who may therefore be presumed to have had considerable share in the building of it. He died in 1396, and is commemorated

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\* *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. i., p. 246.

† A Barony “by writ” descends to heirs general, and in these cases we sometimes get a lady who is a peeress in her own right. This has happened four times in the history of the Willoughby peerage. A Barony “by patent” descends only to heirs male or such special persons as may be mentioned in the patent.

‡ For a fuller account of these members of the Willoughby family and the monuments see the Rev. H. C. Smith's *History of Spilsby*.

§ *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. ii., p. 324.

by a monument of alabaster at Spilsby, while to one of his wives there is a very interesting brass. His son William, to whose memory there is also a brass in Spilsby Church, died in 1410, possessed \* of the manors of Orby and Partney, and divers holdings formerly part of the de Gaunt fee.† His second wife was Joan, daughter of Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, and widow of Edmund of Langley, Duke of York, the son of Edward III. After Lord Willoughby's death she married Henry, Lord Scrope, attainted and beheaded in 1415, and then a fourth husband, Henry Bromflete, Lord Vesey, who died in 1468. She died in 1434, and both then and in 1410, the date of Lord Willoughby's death, was declared to have held the manor of Partney. It seems that this was part of her jointure as Lord Willoughby's widow. The next and sixth Lord Willoughby was Robert, first summoned to Parliament in 1411. He was one of the most

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\* *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. iii., p. 329.

† Inquisition taken at Spilsby on Wednesday next after the feast of S. Hilary, 11 Henry IV., before William Driby, Escheator. "The jurors say that William de Wilughby Chevalier late Lord of Eresby held on the day he died, jointly with Joan Duchess of York his wife, the manors of Orby and Parteney with appurtenances to them and the heirs of the same William, of the gift and feofment of Albinus de Enderby, and that the manor of Orby worth £40 yearly is held of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln and that the manor of Partney is held of the Bishop of Lincoln by what service they know not and is worth beyond reprises 10 marks: and they say that the said Joan survives and that the said William died at Eggefield in Norfolk on Wednesday next before the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle 11 Henry IV. and that Robert de Wilughby, son of the said William is his next heir." —*Chancery Inq., p.m.*, 11 Henry IV., No. 29.

famous soldiers of the age, and fought with Henry V. at Harfleur and Agincourt. Henry, Lord Beaumont, who died in 1413\* had left an infant son only four years of age, and in 1431 Lord Willoughby was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Vendome and Beaumont. This seems to imply that he received either then or previously that de Gaunt fee which had been given by Edward I. to the Beaumonts, but which after this appears no more among their possessions.

He died in 1452, possessed of the manor of West Keal, of which, as we have seen, certain lands in Partney were "parcel," and by his will,† which he made in 1440, he bequeathed to his wife Matilda his "manors of Hanby, Foulestow, Arske, Partney Thorpe and Partney Fotheringhay."‡ Though twice married he left no son, and his only daughter married Sir Richard Welles, who became Lord Willoughby d'Eresby in her right.§

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\* See also page 66 *supra*.

† See Gibbons' *Early Lincoln Wills*.

‡ We shall probably find the explanation of this name in the fact of the possession of property in Partney by Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton, and date the existence of the two manors to the division of the inheritance of Gilbert de Gaunt between two daughters in 1160.

§ It was a recognised principle of the feudal system that the husband who possessed lands in right of his wife was bound to render the services by which the lands were held. Numerous instances therefore occur of husbands sitting in Parliament "*jure uxoris*." The custom ceased when feudal tenures became obsolete, and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth the claim of Richard Bertie to the title of Lord Willoughby d'Eresby in right of his wife was neither recognised nor acted upon. —Sir Harris Nicholas' *Historic Peerage*.



The Welles family had for some generations been holding property here. In 1297 Adam de Welles of Hellow (Belleau) held \* a moiety of the manor of Partney, and his grandson, also Adam, who died † in 1345, possessed divers lands and tenements in this and other places. In 1422 John de Welles, grandfather of Richard, who married the Willoughby heiress, owned ‡ “the third part of the manor of Skendleby and the profits on the markets at Partney.” His widow, Margaret, who died in 1426, was still receiving the latter.§ Richard, Lord Welles and Willoughby, and Robert his son headed a rebellion in 1469 against Edward IV., and lost in consequence both life and property. Both Skendleby and Partney appear in the list of manors they had formerly possessed.|| We get some idea of the extent of their property in the parish from an account ¶ of the belongings of John Affordby of Bilbsby, who died in 1493 and was found to have held “30 acres of land and 300 acres of pasture in Partenay of Richard Wells Knight Lord of Willoughby.”

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\* *Escheat Rolls*, p. 147.

† *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. ii., p. 124.

‡       “       ”       ”       Vol. iv., p. 63.

§       “       ”       ”       Vol. iv., p. 101.

A comparison of these quantities with those traced for the Kerdeston share of Gilbert de Gaunt's Skendleby and Partney property would seem to point to this Welles estate having formerly been that of Nichola de Mauley.

|| *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. iv.

¶ *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. iv., p. 109.



Joan, the only daughter of Richard, Lord Welles, had married Richard Hastings, who was summoned to Parliament as Lord Welles in 1482 and had special livery of all the lands formerly belonging to Lord Welles. He died without issue in 1503 and his wife in 1505, when both title and estates reverted to a younger branch.\* This was represented by William Willoughby, a great-grandson of Thomas, younger brother of Robert, the sixth Baron. This Lord Willoughby was high in favour with Henry VII., who gave him Grimsthorpe and Edenham out of the confiscated estates of Lord Lovel, and the former gradually took the place hitherto held by Eresby as the chief residence of the family. Lord Willoughby married Mary de Salinas, one of the Spanish attendants of Catherine of Aragon. He died in 1527 and was buried at Mettingham in Suffolk.† His property included the manors of Partney Thorpe and Partney Fotheringhay, to which his only daughter Catherine succeeded. She was married first to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, and secondly to Richard Bertie, Esq. The latter and the Duchess are both buried at Spilsby,

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\* In the Church of Ashby juxta Partney are some fragments of a tomb apparently of this couple. Four shields remain: (1) a lion rampant double queued—Welles; (2) a maunch—Hastings; (3) Hastings quartering Ufford impaling Bec; (4) Welles quartering Ufford quartering Bec.

† An old manor of the Uffords. He directed in his will, May 4th, 1526, "My body to be buried in the Collegiate Church of Spillesby. Also I will that a tomb be erected for me and my wife in the College of Spillesby." These directions were not carried out.—Rev. H. C. Smith's *History of Spilsby*, p. 138.

where there is a very large monument completely blocking up what was formerly the chancel arch of the Church. Her two sons by Charles Brandon having both died of the "sweating sickness" on July 16th, 1551, the Willoughby estates of the Duchess passed to her son by Richard Bertie. This was Peregrine Bertie, twelfth Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, a very distinguished man in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He died at Berwick-on-Tweed in 1661, and, in accordance with his special directions, his body was brought to Spilsby for burial.\* The last of the series of the Spilsby monuments gives a life-size effigy of him. His son Robert, at a survey taken of Partney in 1616,† owned 212 acres of land in the parish. He was created Earl of Lindsey and was killed at the battle of Edgehill in 1642. It is not necessary to trace further the history of this family, which has continued to hold the largest estate in the parish ever since, and in 1840 was found by the tithe commissioners to possess 499 acres.

It remains to make a few notes on smaller holdings. Various religious establishments formerly had property here.

The first Gilbert de Gaunt had endowed Bardney Abbey with lands in Partney, and his successors had confirmed the gifts, one of them, as we have seen, increasing the Abbey's possessions here by an exchange. At the dissolution of the monasteries its

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\* *Five Generations of a Loyal House*, by Lady Georgina Bertie.

† Quoted in Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 233.

total income was £366 per annum, and this included "Firma Maneria de Parteney £7 os. od.," and "Pencio Rectoris de Parteney £1 6s. 8d."\*

The property of Nun Cotham has already been mentioned.† Revesby owned land worth 8/- per annum, chargeable with the payment of 2s. 2d. to Bardney.‡

In 1175 Herbert de Orby and Agnes his wife founded a priory for Norbertian or Premonstratensian Canons at Hagnaby, near Alford. Remembering the family connection with these villages one would suppose it was part of the original endowment that the priory was found at the dissolution to be holding lands in Dalby worth 4/- per annum, and divers messuages and lands in Dalby, Partney, and Alford valued at £4 6s. 8d.§

It is well nigh impossible to give a connected history of the smaller properties in the parish, representing, no doubt, in many cases the sokemen and bordars of the Domesday Survey. Little more can be done than mention, in order of time, such holdings as we have any record of.

1202. A "final concord" was made between Richard, son of Walter, plaintiff, and Ralph Clerk, tenant of a bovate of land in Parteneie.

\* Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. i., p. 64.

† See p. 67.

‡ Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. v., p. 456.

§ *Oldfield's Wainfleet*, "Addenda," p. 19.

Richard quitclaimed all right to Ralph, and for this Ralph gave him 10s.\*

1307. John de Rigges, of Partenay, sold 1 toft 5 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow and 3 acres of pasture, with appurtenances, to Gilbert de la Chambre of Sutton, and Agnes his wife. The property was settled on the said Agnes for life, and at her decease a moiety, with its appurtenances, in the west field (in campo occidentali) was to belong to her daughter Emma, and, in default of issue, on her death to Simon Burel; the other moiety, with appurtenances, in the east and south field (in campo orientali et australi) was to belong to Joan, daughter of the said Agnes, and, in default of issue, to Simon Burel.†

1314. Benedict le Tayllur and Agnes his wife quitclaimed all rights in a messuage, with appurtenances, in Partney, to Cristiana, wife of Robert le Tayllur, "who gives them one sore sparrow hawk."‡

1319. Simon Newcomen of Wrangle, and Margaret his wife remise and quitclaim to Geoffrey de Wynceby a messuage in Parteneye.§

1327. A 20th was granted King Edward III. by Parliament, and collected from the following persons in Partney||:—

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\* *Feet of Fines, Lincoln*: from Rev. W. O. Massingberd.

† " " " " " "

‡ " " " " " "

§ " " " " " "

|| *Lay Subsidy Rolls*, Public Record Office.

William Taylur	.	.	.	xii <sup>d</sup> .
Gilbert de Handebec	.	.	.	xx <sup>d</sup> .
Hugh Ruffin	.	.	.	iii <sup>s</sup> .
William Doo	.	.	.	xix <sup>d</sup> .
Ralph ad fontem	.	.	.	xii <sup>d</sup> .
Simon the Chaplain	.	.	.	xviii <sup>d</sup> .
A de S <sup>to</sup> . Botolpho	.	.	.	xii <sup>d</sup> .
John Taylur	.	.	.	xii <sup>d</sup> .
Thomas Syward	.	.	.	ii <sup>s</sup> . ii <sup>d</sup> .
Simon Borel	.	.	.	xix <sup>d</sup> .
Alexander the merchant	.	.	.	ii <sup>s</sup> . ix <sup>d</sup> .
Alexander de Partenay	.	.	.	xviii <sup>d</sup> .
William de Caton	.	.	.	vi <sup>s</sup> .
William de Rokeland	.	.	.	ii <sup>s</sup> .
Walter Barker	.	.	.	iii <sup>s</sup> . iii <sup>d</sup> .
Richard Dand	.	.	.	iii <sup>s</sup> .
Alan Bone	.	.	.	ii <sup>s</sup> .
Ralph Taylur	.	.	.	xii <sup>d</sup> .
Alan de Glorston	.	.	.	viii <sup>d</sup> .

Sum of the Township . xxxviii<sup>s</sup>. viii<sup>d</sup>.

1333. Robert, son of John Rigges, of Partenay, and Elizabeth his wife sold one messuage, with appurtenances, in Partenay, to Richard and Matilda Crede for 100 shillings of silver.\*
1342. An enquiry was held as to the 9ths from benefices granted to the King for the expenses of his French wars. The information as to Partney Rectory was obtained on the sworn testimony of Ralph Taliour, Simon Borel,

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\* *Feet of Fines, Lincoln.*

Alexander Chapman, Roger Dand, Richard Creed, and Ralph Akewra.\*

1343. William Holcote possessed 4 acres of land here.†
1348. Philip de Frestone of Raithby, and Agnes his wife gave Alexander, son of Michael de Partenay, and to Alan Warde and his wife £20 for acknowledgment of their right to a moiety of one messuage in Partenay.‡
1420. Licence for an oratory was granted to William West and Agnes his wife for 5 years.§
1453. William Brasse, whose bequests to Partney Church have been already referred to, left his wife Alice for life or widowhood lands in Partney, Hundleby, Orby and Skendleby Thorpe, with remainder to his daughter Joan for life, and then to his son Robert.||
1489. John Cracroft of Hogsthorpe, bequeathed to his son Richard "lands in Partney which I had by feoffment of John Walton and William Sandon."¶
1489. Richard Langer and Alice his wife sold a house and 46 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow

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\* *Inquisitiones Nonarum*, Rolls Series.

† *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. ii., p. 107.

‡ *Harleian Charters*, 50 E. 22.

§ From the Rev. A. R. Maddison.

|| " " "

¶ " " "

and 14 acres of pasture in Scremby, Grebby, and Partney to John Holden for £40.\*

1491. At an inquisition held in Partney the following inhabitants served on the jury : Hugh Palmer, Robert Webster, Thomas Legh, John Tiler, William Taliour, Robert Jackson, John Arne, and Thomas Lolles.†

1493. An inquisition found that John Affordby of Billesby, who had died in 1493, had held "30 acres of land and 300 acres of pasture in Partenay of Richard Welles Knight Lord of Willoughby . . . one messuage 60 acres of land in Spilsby by Partenay of Ivo Sandon."‡

1495. An inquisition was held at Partney touching the lands of John Fulstowe, deceased. He was found to have held a toft and an oxgang in this parish together with lands in Toynton, East Keal, Dalby, Skegness, Hogsthorpe and Ingoldmells. John Langton of Langton, was one of his executors. By will he had devised this property, after the death of his wife Margaret, to a younger son, Richard. John Fulstowe died February 3rd, 1483, and his widow January 2nd, 1490.§

\* *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. iv., p. 22.

† *Chancery Inquisitiones, post mortem*, published by the Lincolnshire Architectural and Archæological Society, p. 74.

‡ *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. iv., p. 109.

§ " " " " Vol. iii., p. 139.

1506. An inquisition was held at Boston touching the property of William Coteler. The jurors declared that he "was seised in his demesne as of fee of one messuage with lands adjacent in the vill and territory of Partnay &c. &c. . . . and farther the jurors say that the aforesaid messuage with appurtenances in Partenay is held of the lord de Welles by a rent of 3/- and suit of Court and it is worth by the year beyond reprises 43s. 10d." William Coteler died October 12th, 1505; his son George, born in 1493, was his heir.\*
1507. Trustees of William Gibthorpe, deceased, son Thomas Gibthorpe, were found to hold lands in Thorpe next Wainfleet, Halton, Partney, &c. One cottage in Partney is held of the Abbot of Revesby and is worth 4/- yearly. Cecilia, widow of William Gibthorpe, survives and has a son William, 7 years old and more.†
1520. Thomas Thorpe (who was the son of Thomas Thorpe of Wispington) died possessed of a toft and 30 acres of land in Partney valued at 26/8, held of the Lord of the Manor by a payment of 2/-, and also of 8 acres in Frieston and 50 acres in Thorpe. He had married Alice, daughter of Thomas Massingberd, and

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\* *Chancery Inquisitiones, post mortem*, published by the Lincolnshire Architectural and Archæological Society, p. 51.

† Do., p. 56.



left one son, John. By his will\* he directed that he should be buried in the Church of St. James at Frieston. "To my wife Alice 2 Kye. To my son John household stuff. To my wife Alice 8 silver spoons. My land in Frieston and Partney to my son John directly after my decease and my land in Thorpe after my wife decease which is her jointure."

1528. We get the will † of Thomas Warde of Partney (a name we had already met with in 1348), one of the most interesting of all the documents yet published in connection with the parish. The testator left two houses under one roof standing at the "east church style." These houses abut on the churchyard on the west and on the south, and "off the hyeway off the Norte of the Church Howys and off the east of the Lorde of Skendleby." They were to go to his wife "Betteris" for life, then to his son William for life, and then to "Partney Chyrch charging the Chyrchwardens of Partney to kepe every year an obiit for my soul gyffing the parson for messe and dirige viij d to xij pore men of the parish xij d and to the ringers viij d." The boundaries of this property are so carefully defined that we ought to be

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\* See Rev. A. R. Maddison's *Lincoln Wills*, p. 1, and Rev. W. O. Massingberd's *History of Ormsby*, p. 130.

† Rev. A. R. Maddison's *Lincoln Wills*, Vol. i., p. 5.

able to identify it. It was to the east of the Parish Church, and was bounded on both west and south by the churchyard. No house could now stand with these boundaries, but this may very well be evidence that the churchyard has been much curtailed and that it did once extend so that it could be said to be the boundary of a property on the south as well as the west. The finding of numerous human remains on the site of premises now standing to the south-east of the Church would seem to imply, as has been already suggested, that our churchyard was once much larger than it is now, and, indeed, that not less than half of it has in some unaccountable way been lost. The "hyeway," it will be noticed, is to the north of the Church. The modern road is to the south, and the older one to the north is regarded as only a back lane. This road, too, was north of the "Church Howys," presumably the Rectory, the original site of which has been already discussed. This description fits exactly a small piece of land known as "Paradise,"\* and it is further confirmation that this paid a small charge

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\* In Pellicia's *Polity of the Christian Church*, translated by the Rev. J. C. Bellett, there occurs (p. 149) the following: "The open space in front of the Church, through which you approached the central door of the Church, was called . . . in the Middle Ages, Paradise." At Revesby Abbey there was exactly such a piece of land.—*Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. iii., p. 132.

annually to the "Lord of the manor of Skendleby." The name Paradise seems appropriate for land, the income of which was to be devoted to the observance of Divine Service for the repose of certain souls resting there.

This Paradise land became the property of the parish of Partney, and under the old Poor Law was managed by the overseers. It was subject to a rent-charge to the Lord of the Manor of Skendleby.

1527. John Richardson Chaplain was presented by "*honestus vir Radulphus Grene de Parteney*" to the Chantry of St. Catherine in the chapel of Saltfleet Haven, the right of presentation having been granted by the patron, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. In 1536 this Ralph a Grene, yeoman (*i.e.*, Ralph at the Green) was sworn in on the King's Commission of the peace just before the outbreak of the Pilgrimage of Grace. Betryce Green, whose will was proved October 8th, 1545, was presumably his widow. She directed that she should be buried in Partney Church, and bequeathed to Mr. Andrew Asserby (*i.e.*, Affordby) "one grey mare and her foal."\*
1561. A list of Lincolnshire Freeholders gives among those for the Wapentake of Candleshoe †:—

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\* From Rev. A. R. Maddison.

† *Lansdowne MSS.*, fol. 54-62, published in "Old Lincolnshire, Vol. i., No. 5.

John Walgrave de Partney gen.

John Dicconson de Partney yeo.

John Grene de Partney yeo.

1582. Proceedings were taken in the Court of Chancery in which Richard White and Betteris his wife claimed some property in Partney against Clement Atkins and Isaac Lingard, "late the estate of Thomas Fisher deceased, the plaintiff Betteris' first husband."\*
1566. At the dissolution of Bardney Abbey the patronage of the benefice, and perhaps also other Abbey property in the parish, seems to have been acquired by John Wallgrave. He presented in 1566, and made over the patronage to John Dyon, who presented in 1574. At that time he was Lord of a manor here, as is shown by the following inquisition:—"William Manby† Esqr. was seised of one cottage in Partney held of John Walgrave as of his manor of Partney and it is worth 3s. 4d. yearly. He died March 8th 1573 and Francis Manby Esqr. is his son and next heir and 36 years of age and more."‡ The following notices refer to this family:—
1599. April 19th a marriage licence was granted to Thomas Walgrave of Partney and Helen

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\* *Proceedings in Chancery*: Elizabeth, Vol. iii., p. 313, No. 27.

† This is apparently William Manby of Worlaby, who married Alice, daughter of Thomas Gibthorpe, and may very possibly refer to the Gibthorpe property alluded to above.

‡ *Chancery Inq., post mortem*, 15 Elizabeth, No. 97.

Puttrell of Dalby, the ceremony to take place in Dalby Church.

1613. Emmanuel Walgrave of Partney, gent., aged 23, obtained a licence to marry Margaret Palmer of Louth, spinster, aged 19, daughter of William Palmer, late of Louth, gent., deceased, the ceremony to take place at Cockerington St. Mary. To these licences \* we may add another: in 1620, to Matthias Whiting of Croft, aged 22, and Jane Walgrave of Great Steeping, aged 18. In 1614 John, son of Emmanuel Walgrave, was baptised at Partney.

1592. Death of Sir Christopher Wray,† Lord Chief Justice of England, being at the time in possession of a manor here worth £32 per annum. He was born at Bedale in Yorkshire, and served as M.P. for Borough Bridge in all the Parliaments of Queen Mary, and was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons in 1571. Soon after he was made a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and in 1574 Lord Chief Justice of England. He resided at Glentworth, where the ruins of a house, inhabited by himself and four generations of his descendants, may still be seen. His Lincolnshire properties were all gained by purchase in his lifetime; Glentworth, where

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\* Gibbons' *Lincoln Marriage Licences*.

† *History of the Wrays of Glentworth*, by Charles Dalton.

he built his house, in 1566. The following references to Partney occur in his will: "Also I will that my wife shall have duringe her liffe 2 bucks and 2 does in parke at Glentworthe and 3 geldings grase their and if my sonne or his heirs or assign shall not p'mytt or suffer my saide wiffe to have them I will that she shall have in recompence theirol £6 13s. 4d. yearlye rent charge out of my lands in Ptney . . . Item I give to Leonard Wray my nephewe £10 yearlye rent charge out of my lands in Partnye . . . Item I give to Richard Hale my servante . . . £10 out of my lands and tenements in Partnye . . . Item I gyve to John Tyndale my servante one annual rent charge of £6 yearly out of my land in Parteneye. . . ." These charges, it will easily be seen, dispose of the whole £32 the value of the Lord Chief Justice's property in Partney.

1603. Jan. 23rd, Thomas Newcomen and Elling Ryder were married. April 6th, 1633, Burial of Ellen Nucom, widow.

1616. A survey\* taken of the parish gives the owners of land as follows:—

		A.	R.	P.
Lord Willoughby	. .	212	2	14
Sir William Wray	. .	212	2	6
Andrew Ormsbie	. .	185	3	24

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\* From Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 233.

	A.	R.	P.
William Thorie . . .	80	3	39
William Moody . . .	29	3	30
Sir Valentine Brown . .	26	0	39
John Wood . . . . .	21	1	28
Small freeholders . . .	43	0	27 $\frac{5}{8}$
Copartners of Partney . .	26	1	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Copartners of Skendleby .	25	3	38
The Glebe . . . . .	6	1	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
The Town . . . . .	5	0	22 $\frac{1}{8}$
	<hr/>		
	876	3	0
	<hr/>		

The earlier history of the Willoughby estate has been already given. The Lord Willoughby of 1616 was Robert, twelfth holder of the Barony. He was created Earl of Lindsey in 1625, and died of his wounds received at Edgehill in 1642. Clarendon, in his *History of the Great Rebellion*, speaks very highly of him. It will be noticed that his estate in Partney is rather smaller than that which John Affordby held of Richard Lord Welles and Willoughby d'Eresby.

Sir William Wray was the only son of the Lord Chief Justice. He was born in 1555, became M.P. for Grimsby, and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth. In 1611 he was made one of the new order of Baronets. He resided principally at Ashby near Grimsby on a property which came to him with his second wife. He died in 1617 and was buried under a sumptuous marble monument in the Parish Church

there.\* He presented to the benefice of Partney in 1607, and this seems to point to the Wray property here being the same as that of John Walgrave.

Andrew Ormsbie was the grandson of the John Dicconson whose name appears as a freeholder in 1561. His name also occurs in a list of Lincolnshire gentry as "of Partney" in 1634, and he was buried at Partney January 1st, 1641.†

The Thory ‡ family was of considerable antiquity as tenants of land under the manor of Ingoldmells, and we shall probably be right in regarding Thomas Thory's land in Partney as part of the de Lacy fee, of which the history has been sketched (pp. 70 to 74). Thomas Thory of Boston, and William Thory of Ingoldmells, appear among the Lincolnshire gentry entitle to bear arms in 1634, and the family had lived in those two places for many generations. Thomas Thory was mayor of Boston § in 1566, and John Thory in 1616 and again in 1630. Thomas Thory in 1662 was one of the commissioners for the remodelling of the Corporation of Boston, which in the

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\* He had 19 children, of whom the eldest became the second Baronet and the third married Elizabeth Lady Norreys. Their only daughter, Bridget, became the second wife of Montague Bertie, second Earl of Lindsey. The second Baronet, Sir John, died in 1655, and was succeeded in the title by three of his sons, viz., Sir John, who died in 1664, Sir Christopher, who died in the following month, and Sir Bethel, who died in 1672. The Glentworth estates passed to a daughter of the first, who had married the Hon. Nicholas Saunderson.—*History of the Wrays of Glentworth*, by Charles Dalton.

† See Appendix.

‡ Variouslly spelt : Thory, Thorie.

§ Thompson's *History of Boston*.



late troubles had shown itself on the side of the Parliament. About the same time Boston gave "a free and voluntary gift" to the King amounting to £182, to which "Thomas Thory Esq." subscribed £5.

William Thory, of Partney, by his will,\* dated April 25th, 1643, directed that he should be buried at Partney, and bequeathed to his son Thomas his lands in Addlethorpe, Ingoldmells, Burgh and Winthorpe; to his wife Bridget (daughter of Thomas Massingberd of Gunby) his lands in Partney, Dalby, and Skendleby for life. The son, Thomas Thory of Partney, died "about Easter, 1645," leaving one daughter, Bridget.† His widow married George Rugeley, and dying in 1673 is commemorated by a small brass in Partney Church. In 1648 "Captain George Ridgley" presented the following petition ‡ to "the Right Honourable the Commissioners sitting at Goldsmiths' Hall" for the purpose of imposing fines and making other regulations with regard to the property of the defeated royalists: "That your petitioner hath faithfully served the Parliament since the late unhappy differences and is still in the Parliament's service. That he hath lately married with Jane the late widow and relict of Thomas Thory gent deceased a delinquent. That your petitioner in right of his said wife is to receive the rents and profits of the lands in the particulars annexed mentioned as guardian to

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\* Rev. A. R. Maddison's *Lincolnshire Wills*.

† See Appendix.

‡ *Royalist Composition Papers*, Public Record Office.

Bridget sole daughter and heire to the said Thomas Thorie during her minoritie she being aged about 12 years. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that he may be admitted to a moderate composition for the rents and profits of the said estate during the minoritie of the said Bridget."

The "particulars annexed" contain no mention of any lands in Partney. The estate was in Ingoldmells, Burgh, Addlethorpe and Winthorpe, and of the yearly value of £100. Another handwriting has altered this to £71 9s. 8d. By the custom of the manor the widow took one third for life for dower. On November 6th, 1648, the composition was fixed at £186, but on paying one half he may produce his proof of his wife's third issuing there out. On April 20th, 1649, the fine was reduced to £90.

Bridget Thory married John Rugeley of Halton Hologate, and died in 1658, aged 21. She is commemorated by a brass in Halton Church.

The royalist politics of the Thory family come out in the next generation. During the struggle between King and Parliament, Drayner Massingberd, a cousin of Thomas Thory, had taken the side of the latter. He was, however, knighted in 1661, and continued to live at South Ormsby, where he had purchased an estate in 1638. Some people apparently did not quite trust him, and there still remains in his handwriting a list of arms "taken away by Lieutenant Francis of Horncastle, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Ely of Utterby, Mr. Thory Todd of Partney, &c., by

warrant from the Earle of Lindsey and Sir Charles Dymock July 17th 1683." The arms were given in charge to Mr. Thory Todd, and though Sir Drayner wrote to the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Lindsey, he evidently got no redress.\*

Later, some members of the Thory family were living at Skendleby, and a tombstone in the Church there mentions John Thory, who died in 1719, Bridget his wife, who died the same year, and John their son, who died in 1740. Their eldest daughter, Martha, married John Moody of Scremby, and died in 1742, aged 54, and another daughter, Ann, married Hussey Chapman of Skegness, and died in 1755, aged 66.

The transcripts of the Partney Registers at Lincoln have the baptism of "Jetruda," daughter of Ralph and Elizabeth Rugeley, 1691, and in those still left to us we have the burials of "Elizabeth wife of Radulph Rugeley gent," 1706, and of Radulph Rugeley himself, 1720.

The will † of Easter Cooke, widow, of Partney, proved May 12th, 1680, mentions her "unkle Rugeley." She was an Eland by birth, and married at Cawkwell 13th January, 1639-40, Willoughby Guevara of Stenigot. She married — Cooke of Partney for her second husband. Her daughter, Ann Guevara, married first Jeremiah Blow, and second Thomas Buddevant of Partney.

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\* Rev. W. O. Massingberd's *History of South Ormsby*, pp. 166, 169.

† Rev. A. R. Maddison's *Wills*.

If William Moody was of Scremby his property here is probably that referred to as sold to John Holden in 1489.

Sir Valentine Browne\* lived at Croft, where he had purchased an estate between 1562 and 1577. His first wife was Alice, daughter of Robert Alexander of London, by whom he had one son, a second Sir Valentine, who married Elizabeth Monson of North Carlton. They had a large family, of whom the second son, John, appears to have succeeded to the Croft estates. He sold them to Sir Thomas Massingberd of Bratoft,† who in 1619 bequeathed them to one of his grandsons. The eldest, a third Sir Valentine, is the proprietor of this Partney Survey. He had married Amy Fulstow, and was buried at Croft, April 29th, 1626. It is presumably in her right that he was owning lands in Partney, and they would be the same as those given above in the Fulstow Inquisition of 1495. Dame Amy Browne was buried at Croft, May 3rd, 1632.‡

We use the expression copartners nowadays to describe a body of men formed by common contract. In the above list the word must be taken to imply a partnership which pre-supposed a common descent, even if such did not actually exist. The whole subject of village ownership by the community is a most intricate one and too extensive even to be

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\* See Oldfield's *Wainfleet*.

† Rev. W. O. Massingberd's *History of South Ormsby*, p. 143.

‡ *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. v., p. 30. See Appendix.

glanced at here. But we may take it that in the ownership of 26 acres in Partney by the Copartners of the Parish, and another 25 acres by the Copartners of Skendleby, we have an interesting relic of a system that goes back to the beginnings of man's history.\*

In 1822 a marriage licence was granted to Reuben Fen of Horncastle, skinner, aged 24, and Ellen Kittlepenny of Partney, spinster, aged 21. Their parents are dead: and in 1625 to Thomes Skittlepenny of Partney, blacksmith, aged 30, and Ann Gaule of the same, spinster, aged 20.†

The evidence of the Parish Registers points to persons of the following names as residents here at the end of the 17th century:—Andrews, Blaydes, Bowring, Bucknall, Butler, Burr, Burton, Calvert, Cartwright, Chantry, Chapman, Draper, Ethrington, Fairbanks, Fox, Freshney, Green, Grummitt, Harryman, Hoyle, Johnson, Kirk, Millner, Peach, Rugely, Sleight, Smith, Wells.

Anthony a Wood, in his *Athenæ Oxonienses*, gives a long account of Henry Stubbe, of which the following is a summary:—Henry Stubbe “the most noted person of his age that these late times have produced received his first breath in an obscure village called Partney, near Spilsby in Lincolnshire, on the 28th of Feb., 1631 (so I have been informed by letters from his mother), at which place his father, who was a

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\* Sir H. Maine's *Village Communities*; Gomme's *Village Community*.

† Gibbons' *Lincoln Marriage Licences*.

minister, then lived, but being anabaptistically inclined was forced to leave it." The family accordingly moved to Ireland, but returned to England in 1641. Henry Stubbe was sent to Westminster School, and passed from thence to Christchurch, Oxford. After taking his degree he went to Scotland, and served the Parliament there 1653-5. Returning to Oxford he became assistant keeper of the Bodleian Library, but was removed in consequence of a book he had written. He went to Stratford on Avon, and later to Warwick and Bath, where he practised as a physician. At the Restoration he submitted to the Church of England, and developed a great hatred of Presbyterianism. He was one of the most noted Greek and Latin scholars of his time, an able mathematician, and very eloquent. He had a prodigious memory, wrote numerous books and pamphlets, and was accounted a very good physician. He was accidentally drowned while riding through the river two miles from Bath, and was buried in the Abbey Church there, 1676.

From the survey of 1616 we must pass over 200 years and come to the list of owners as given in the tithe award of the Commissioners of 1840. They are as follows :—

	A.	R.	P.
Lord Willoughby d'Eresby . . . . .	499	2	31
G. W. Maddison, Esq. . . . .	79	3	13
Trustees of Beverley Minster . . . . .	50	2	4
Thomas Bishop, Esq. . . . .	43	2	18
John Baker . . . . .	28	1	0

	A.	R.	P.
John Heanley . . . .	25	2	6
Mary Gilliatt . . . .	25	1	12
Rev. Francis Swan . . . .	21	2	24
Laurence Kendall . . . .	20	1	11
The Glebe . . . .	5	2	29
The Overseers . . . .	4	2	3
Governors of Bethlehem Hos- pital . . . . .	2	1	5
28 small freeholders with less than 20 acres each . . .	112	1	18
	<hr/> 919	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 14

It will be noticed that very few of the names, and none of the quantities, are the same in this table as in the former one. Lord Willoughby d'Eresby (who had also obtained the advowson of the Rectory) has absorbed the Wray estate. Mr. Maddison, a new proprietor, has become the second largest owner and taken the lands probably that once belonged to the Ormsbys. The trustees of Beverley Minster, as Lords of the Manor of Dalby, represent, possibly with additions, certain of the lands of John de Orby, who died in 1296. Mr. Bishop owned that part of the parish known as "the Model Farm," Mr. John Heanley the present rectory, the Rev. Francis Swan certain fields adjoining Sausthorpe, and Mary Gilliatt a part near the mill.

George Wilson Maddison, Esq., J.P., of Partney Hall, was the only son of Colonel George Maddison\*

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\* See Appendix.

who purchased the Partney property in 1812. Colonel George Maddison was the second son of Lieutenant-Colonel George Maddison of Stainton Vale and Mary Baugh his wife. He was born in 1762, entered the army in 1779 and retired in 1809, having served in Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, and the Walcheren campaign. He died in 1816, and is buried at Hertingfordbury, Hertfordshire. His wife, Mary, daughter of the Rev. Henry Alington of Swinhope, died at Partney in 1850, and is buried at Halton Hologate. Mr. G. W. Maddison, besides inheriting the Partney property of his father, succeeded also his uncle, Colonel Thomas Maddison, in lands at Great Steeping. He married Frances Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Alan Bellingham of Castle Bellingham, Ireland, who died at Partney, April 29th, 1886. Mr. Maddison died at Partney, June 10th, 1888, and was buried beside his wife in Partney churchyard. His two elder sons having predeceased him, he was succeeded in the Partney and Great Steeping estates by his third son, Henry.

The following is a list of the owners of property in the parish at the present time (acres only given):—

Lord Willoughby d'Eresby	.	.	477
Trustees of Beverley Minster	.	.	50
Stainton's Trustees	.	.	50
Benjamin Robinson	.	.	43
George Walker	.	.	40
Thompson's Trustees	.	.	32
Rev. C. T. Swan	.	.	21



R. Holderness . . . . .	21
E. B. Kendall . . . . .	20
Henry Maddison . . . . .	17
The Glebe . . . . .	8
The Overseers . . . . .	4
Governors of Bethlehem Hospital .	2
The remainder, 28 small freeholders .	135

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920 acres

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## CHAPTER VI.

### THE MARKET AND FAIRS.

**S**UCH fame as Partney still has amongst its immediate neighbours, or, indeed, in the county and even beyond it, is due to the fairs. The market has long since disappeared. As we have seen, when Domesday Survey was taken there was a market here "worth 10/- yearly." Markets do not occur very frequently in that famous document, and it evidently does not give a complete list of them no more than it does of the Churches. There are in the County of Lincoln at present the following "market towns":—Lincoln, Alford, Barton, Boston, Bourne, Brigg, Burgh, Cais-tor, Crowland, Donington, Epworth, Falkingham, Gainsborough, Grantham, Grimsby, Holbeach, Horn-castle, Kirton Lindsey, Long Sutton, Louth, Market Deeping, Market Rasen, Sleaford, Spalding, Spilsby, Stamford, Wainfleet, and Winterton. The Domesday list can only be made out as follows :—

PLACE.	VALUE.
Chirchetone (Kirton Lindsey)	not given.
Ludes (Louth)	29s. od.
Bolingbroc (Bolingbroke) "a new market"	not given.
Spallinge (Spalding)	40s.
Bertone (Barton) "and a ferry"	£4 0s. od.
Partene (Partney)	£0 10s. od.

The list \* is obviously incomplete, for even Lincoln and Stamford do not appear in it. It shows, however, quite plainly that in this district there were two market towns; Bolingbroke, which had recently obtained the privilege, and Partney, which, to judge from the recorded value, must have been smaller than either Louth or Spalding. Spilsby obtained its charter in 1302.† Both Partney and Bolingbroke have long since ceased to have a market day. Spilsby was to be on Monday, but the older markets were very often on Sunday. Gilbert de Gaunt's claim under Edward I.'s writ *de quo Warranto* included :

"Clamat et in manerio suo de Parteney mercatum qualibet septima per diem Sabbati et duas ferias ibidem videlicet unam in die Purificationis Beate

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\* A popular account of *Domesday Book*, by W. de Grey Birch.

*Domesday Book of Lincolnshire*, translated by C. G. Smith.

As illustrating the confusion which may very easily arise between Bardney and Partney, it may be noticed that while the latter of these writers (p. 124) thinks "Soke of Bardney" has been written by mistake for Partney, the former, giving a list of the market towns of the county, supposes Partene to mean Bardney, which it certainly does not.

† Given in full in Rev. H. C. Smith's *History of Spilsby*.

Mariæ tam et aliam in die Nativitatis Beatæ Mariæ tam et ea quæ ad mercatum et feriam pertinent.”\*

Partney market continued to exist after this. In 1392 Sir John de Burghersh owned in Partney “decima octava pars profic’ tolnet’ nundinarum ibidem” (the eighteenth part of the profits on the market there), and the same item appears among the possessions of his widow. In 1422 “Partney nundinæ” (Partney market) came under the property of Sir John de Welles, and four years later belonged to his widow.† In 1437‡ “Matilda quæ fuit uxor Thomæ Chaucer” held in Partney “mediatas 18<sup>mo</sup> partis profic’ tolnet’ nundin’ tenend’ ibidem singulis annis in vigiliis et diebus Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalenæ, Assumptionis et Nativitatis Beatæ Mariæ Virginis” (a share of the eighteenth part of the profit of the tolls of the market held at Partney every year on the eve and on the day of the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen and of the Assumption and of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary). In this entry the market seems absorbed in the fairs. Such is also the case in “Calendar of Pleadings in the Duchy of Lancaster”§

\* *Placita de quo Warranto*, Edward I., p. 424. “He also claims in his manor of Partney a market every week on the Sabbath day and two fairs there viz., one on the feast of the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the other on the feast of her Nativity and all that belongs to the market and fair.”

† *Inquisitiones, post mortem*, Vol. iii., p. 133.

‡       ”       ”       ”       Vol. iv., p. 56.

§ *Calendar of Pleadings in the Duchy of Lancaster*, Rolls series.

in the time of Edward VI., when the inhabitants of Wainfleet, as plaintiffs, brought an action against "Thomas Blackburn, Bailiff of Spylysby, and others," claiming "exemption from tolls, piccage and stallage of markets and fairs at Partney." Our knowledge, then, of Partney market may be thus summed up. King William's Commissioners found one existing here in 1086. Profits derived from it formed part of the property of the de Gaunt fee. These continued, even after the establishment of Spilsby market in 1302, of sufficient importance to be worth writing down in a list of people's possessions. But it gradually declined in importance before its neighbour on the hill, and has long since disappeared altogether.\*

The fairs are still four in number :—

August 1st. "The fat lamb Fair."

August 25th.

September 18th and 19th. "The Great September Fair."

The Wednesday and Thursday after Old Michaelmas Day. "The onion Fair."

It will be interesting to compare these dates with the Saints' Days mentioned above. In 1278 there was an allusion to two : The Feast of the Purification and the Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary.

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\* So, too, have Bolingbroke and Candlesby. For the latter place John de Orby obtained a charter in 1342. The situation had at least this much to commend it, that it is on the road between Partney and the Marsh and might have been expected to interfere as much with sales here as the establishment of a stock market at Burgh has undoubtedly done in recent years.

The former of these, or Candlemas Day, is February 2nd. There is no trace of any existence of a Partney Fair \* at that time of the year. Candlemas markets in the neighbouring towns are still the recognised time for the farmer making his arrangements with his "confined men." The Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary was kept on September 8th, and is known to have been observed as far back as the 7th century. But the mention of Old Michaelmas Day above reminds us that in these old fairs the force of custom was too strong for the legislature to overcome, and though an Act of Parliament decreed, in 1752, that the English Calendar should be brought into more scientific correctness with the actual course of the sun, it could not break completely through the older way of computing time, and so long-established an institution as Partney Fair was just one of those things which adhered to the "old style,"† and we

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\* A Spring Fair was desired by some in Partney a few years ago, but it was to have come before the Lincoln Fair of the last week in April. The present system of feeding sheep on turnips for the winter would not need a fair so soon as February. It may, however, have fitted in with the agricultural condition of the country before the introduction of winter roots (time of James I.) effected so great an alteration in the keeping of stock.

† The solar year contains 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 47½ seconds : that is to say, it takes the earth that time to move from one point in its course round the sun and then return to the same again. If, therefore, the year be regarded as containing only 365 days, the accumulation of the odd hours and minutes will in time be very considerable. This error was perfectly well understood by very early astronomers and Julius Cæsar, to correct it, ordered that while three years should contain 365 days each, the fourth should have an intercalary or additional day. This is called the Julian Calendar, and is still followed in Russia. But

must remember this in comparing the mediæval and modern dates. The fair, then, which was held on "the eve and the day of the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen," is that now held on August 1st. The Feast of St. Mary Magdalen is recorded in our Church Calendar for July 22nd ; eleven days added brings us to August 2nd. It will be noticed it was a two days' fair. It is now held on one day only, August 1st, which is "the eve of the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen" (old style). The same thing has happened with regard to the two fairs which came on Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Assumption was kept on August 15th ; eleven days added brings us to

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it is plain that this gives a little too much. The error was not quite six hours a year, and if the observance of the oldest method would have resulted eventually in it being called summer when the days were shortest because the calendar was six months beforehand, the observance of the Julian rule would have at last brought about the same condition of affairs because the calendar was six months behindhand. Of course, as the error was so very much less, it would have taken longer to produce the anomaly. In 1582 Pope Gregory introduced a new method of computation, and caused ten days (the amount to which the error had then reached) to be omitted in October, making the 15th succeed the 4th, and to prevent its recurrence ordered that for the future in every 400 years three of the leap years should not have the extra day, viz., those in which the numbers expressing the century are not divisible by 4. This Gregorian Calendar or New Style, as it is called, was not introduced into England until 1752, and under date Sept. 28th of that year the keeper of the Partney register has entered a brief note "New Stile." The error then amounted to eleven days. Quarter days for public funds (and for many other payments) still remain at the old dates. Thus in some parts of the country where the yearly hirings took place at Martinmas, Nov. 11th, they are now made to date from Nov. 22nd. When the change was made in 1752 the farmer would not pay a year's wages for 354 days' work, and the servants were kept on to what was thereafter to be called Nov. 22nd.

August 26th. August 25th, therefore, on which the present fair is held, is "the eve of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary." The Nativity was kept on September 8th; eleven days added brings to the 19th, and so the Great September Fair is still held on the "eve and on the day of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary." I have found no allusions to the October fair, but it puts itself in the same category, and is always described as being held on "the Wednesday and Thursday after Old Michaelmas Day," *i.e.*, after October 11th. It has, however, been altered in recent years. It used to be held always on October 18th and 19th, and so clashed sometimes with Caistor, which falls on "the Friday and Saturday after Old Michaelmas Day." It will be noticed that while these fairs are held on Church Feasts, there is no mention of St. Nicholas, to whom the Parish Church is dedicated, probably because his day, December 6th, would be quite unsuitable for the purpose. Both St. Mary the Virgin and St. Mary Magdalen were commemorated in Chapels in the parish.

The records of the possession of income from tolls of the fairs give us no idea as to what that income actually amounted to. Tolls, as distinct from payments for pen ground, were paid within the memory of persons still living, but for many years cattle have been allowed to stand in the streets without any payment except that of a penny a head for sheep that use the pens.



In 1816 there was an examination of Robert Gilliat under the old laws of parochial settlement, and he stated that he had hired "the tolls of the fairs held at Partney of John Thompson and George Gilbert (they being tenants to Garmston Chapman, gentleman) at the annual rent of £20."

In 1827 Mr. Chapman's assessment included £16 for pen round and tolls.

In 1828 the following persons were assessed "for pen round":—J. H. Bourne, W. Holderness, J. Andrew (and tolls), H. Brown, Mary Flowers, John Lewis, Mrs. Litchford, Elizabeth Wright, T. Smith, D. Holderness, Thomas Cash, F. Bonnett, J. Barker, Edward Hodgson, Thomas Stainton.

The amount of Stock brought to Partney Fair in olden times was very great, and the number of visitors, some of whom would have driven over from Lincoln, taxed all the resources of the place. Very frequently not a bed was to be had in the whole parish, and accommodation had to be sought outside it. The stall holders were obliged to sleep with their goods, which at least had the advantage of placing them very near their work on the following morning. But, though still an institution of some importance, Partney Fair shows but a shadow of its former greatness. The "Fat Lamb Fair" of August 1st is generally well attended, because it is supposed to rather regulate prices for the season. People will very often come to it, as, of course, they do also to the other fairs, though they are not actually buyers

and sellers. The "Great September Fair" has, in one department, decidedly increased in importance. To that fair several of the more noted ram breeders send their stock, and the price of 50 guineas for the best is often reached. All the fairs begin very early in the morning, and a buyer who comes upon the scene at 6 a.m. may find, if trade is brisk, that only the culls are left for him to buy. The second day of the September and October Fairs is devoted to "Beast." Of these, as of the sheep, large numbers may still sometimes be seen at Partney. The sheep are penned all along the street, and in two or three paddocks. The beasts stand in the streets, and have been known, within living memory, to stretch for more than a mile along the Scremby road. The October Fair was famous for the sale of many things besides cattle. One part of the village was crowded with butchers' stalls for the sale of meat ; another with the produce of the farm gardens and orchards that had been accumulated in the early autumn, onions, apples, walnuts ; in another supplies of clothing, cloth for the farmers' and labourers' wives to make up, and boots and shoes. The evening of the last day was devoted to pleasure. All those things which seem, even yet, to the countryman to be so amusing, the penny peep shows, the gingerbread stalls, the monstrosities, the mountebanks and the juggling, came to delight him and, if possible, entice away in a few hours the money saved in a twelve-month. Matters generally ended in a free fight.

For one thing, as I have been told, "Spilsby came down to buffet Partney, and Partney stood up to buffet Spilsby." Here, no doubt, we have a relic of a very primitive state of things. It is a well-known fact that sometimes we find the greatest antipathy existing between the inhabitants of two neighbouring places, and an enquiry generally reveals a race distinction and carries the origin of the quarrel back to the beginnings of history. So it may very well be in this case. Happily the rivalry seems now to have ended in a lasting peace. The descendants of really old parochial families may be counted on the fingers of one hand. But this yearly "buffeting" seems to point to that difference which, it is easily seen, must have existed between the men of Spilsby and the men of Partney, between a Danish and an Old English settlement, yes, and far further back even than that, between the dwellers on the hills and the dwellers in the plain. And the visitors, who came down to play and went back having both received and given broken heads, were preserving for us a trace, not only of primitive savagery, but of primitive distinction of race.

In every way Partney Fair is very different from what it was a hundred or even fifty years ago. The booths and stalls have declined to the number of one, one behind which the same stall keeper has stood for sixty years and offered his fruit and cakes and famous gingerbread for old acquaintance sake. But he grows old, and Partney Fair grows old too. The march of

modern progress is leaving it behind. The railways, by the facilities they have given for travelling, have made it no longer necessary that all the cattle of a district should be herded together for twenty-four hours so that buyers may come and purchase. Nowadays a very large proportion of a farmer's stock changes hands without being taken to fair or market at all. So far as these are necessary, they seem most in demand as fat stock markets, with sales by auction, and meetings at shorter intervals than the one or two annual gatherings of the old fairs. Nor is it so necessary to attend the fairs to learn the prices of things, valuable as the actual experience of the higgling of the market must always be. Newspapers of all sorts, daily, weekly, local, agricultural, will gather for a man much of the information he could in olden time have obtained only for himself. Partney is off any line of railway, but the fairs seem to suit a certain class of buyers and sellers, and so long as they do so will continue to occupy, locally at least, a not unimportant place in the agricultural world.





## CHAPTER VII.

### TRADITIONS OF THE PLAGUE.



ON the gable end of an old house opposite the Church is a stone inscribed :—

O LORD BE THOV MY  
KEEPER MERCIE AND  
PEACE BE IN THIS PLACE

A.D. 1616.

and cut out of what was originally the border a later hand seems to have added— IC — RBIN 1722.

It is a common tradition in the parish that this house was the only one which escaped a visitation of the plague after the great plague of London in 1666, from the mortality of which the place has never recovered, and in consequence of which the market was transferred to Spilsby. To this it is sometimes added “and the dead were buried under the mounds called Round Hills, near Langton Grange.” There is probably some underlying element of truth in a tradition so universally accepted in the neighbour-

hood, but in the details as usually given there are manifest inaccuracies. (1) The date on the stone is 1616, and we have no evidence at all of any serious epidemic then. In fact, of the period from 1611 to 1625 Dr. Creighton, in his *History of Epidemics in Britain*,\* writes: "Almost an absolutely clear interval for London, there are few accounts of plague from the provinces." (2) But neither have we satisfactory proof of a plague in these parts in 1666. True, 1665 was the year of the great Plague of London, of whose ravages the writings of Evelyn and Defoe have made us familiar, but the other parts of the country affected were mostly near London, and the spread of the infection to Eyam in Derbyshire has always been represented as unique. (3) The inscription on the stone is in words hardly likely to be chosen as a thanksgiving for a signal deliverance.† (4) The market, from whatever cause it has disappeared, cannot have been transferred to Spilsby in the 17th century, because that place had already enjoyed the privilege of a market every Monday since 1302. (5) No reason is suggested for what is a most unlikely thing in itself, the carrying of the plague-stricken dead to a spot three miles away, nor is it

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\* *History of Epidemics in Britain*, p. 501, Dr. Creighton.

† Dr. Creighton says (p. 313) that previous to 1543 a wisp of straw was used to mark an infected house in those unhappily frequent outbreaks of plague, or sweating sickness, which carried off so many English lives in the 15th and 16th centuries. Later, in London at least, it was directed that the mark be a St. Anthony's Cross, that is, a headless cross painted blue, which was afterwards changed to red, and over or under it the words, "Lord, have mercy upon us."

noticed that it is inconsistent with the alternative tradition of burials all over the parish.

It seems most likely that three things have got connected together—the mounds, the plague, and the inscription—which have really nothing to do with one another. The mounds are early tumuli, of which there are several examples in the neighbourhood, and if their other name of Spellow Hills may be taken as a guide, they perhaps mark the resting-place of the man who gave his name to Spilsby. The stone is an example of that placing of texts or pious inscriptions on houses, which is significant of the Puritan movement. The later date at the bottom may very well be that of the year in which it was placed in its present position in the house. It is remarkable that, whereas nowadays most Partney people connect the stone with a visitation of plague, the author of a *History of Lincolnshire*, published by John Saunders in 1834, found that some persons in the parish ascribed it to “only a whim of the architect.” The plague, and consequent loss both of population and market, will fit in much better with the earlier and more terrible visitation known as the Black Death, 1348–9. The history of this, the most universal and the most serious epidemic the world has ever suffered from, has lately been written by the Benedictine Father Gasquet,\* and the course of it in the Diocese of Norwich has also been

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\* *The Great Pestilence*, by Francis Aidan Gasquet, D.D., O.S.B. London : Simpkin, Marshall & Co. 1893. Pp. 219.



graphically described by Dr. Jessopp.\* So far as the former could discover, it first appeared in Dorsetshire in the autumn of 1348, after a very wet summer, and before the end of that year it had spread itself far and wide in the western counties of England. In January, 1349, it was at its worst, and indeed hardly abated until the following June. It had already reached London, and during its prevalence a new cemetery, where subsequently the Charter house stood, was provided when the churchyards were no longer sufficient to receive the dead. The disease then spread up to the southern, eastern, and midland counties, and was at its worst there from May to September, 1349. Some idea of its violence in the Diocese of Norwich may be obtained from the fact that whereas the average number of institutions of clergy to vacant benefices for the previous five years had been 77, in 1349 it was 800. Many places in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk have never recovered from the losses of that disastrous year. Norwich itself lost and has never regained the position of second city in the kingdom. London soon recovered : York was not much injured : Lincoln was reported 50 years afterwards as "in the great part empty and uninhabited." All over the country there is evidence of a mortality equally great both among clergy and people, and there seems no reason to doubt but that half the population of England perished. Neither Father Gasquet nor

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\* *The Coming of the Friars*, by Rev. Dr. Jessopp, pp. 166-261.



Dr. Jessopp describes the course of the plague in Lincolnshire,\* but the former, after writing of its spreading from the continent to the southern coast of England and so up to the midlands, adds: "In Nottinghamshire the proportion of deaths among the beneficed clergy is found, as in other cases, to be fully one-half of the total number. Out of 126 benefices in the county, the incumbents died in 65. Eastwards again the county of Lincoln lies between Nottinghamshire and the sea. At an early period Pope Clement VI. granted to the priests and people of the city and diocese of Lincoln great indulgencies in the hour of death since on their behalf a petition had been made to him which declared that the deadly pestilence had commenced in the city and diocese." There is no doubt but that the mortality in Lincolnshire was as great as elsewhere. We have also direct local testimony from the *Chronicle of Louth Park Abbey*† supposed to have been written about 1452: "In the year of our Lord God 1349, the hand of the only Omnipotent God struck the human race with a certain deadly blow, which beginning in the southern regions passed on to the northern, and invaded all the

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\* No one has as yet worked out the figures of the Lincoln Episcopal registers in this careful manner, but there is no doubt but that they would yield similar results. There are, for example, two institutions each for the year 1349 to Kitsby, Tetford, Fulletby, Ingoldmells, and Langton near Horncastle. The Rectors of Langton-by-Partney, Driby, Brinkhill, Aswardby, Calceby, Bag Enderby, and Salmonby, died.

† *Chronicle of Louth Park Abbey*, translated by the Rev. A. R. Maddison for the Lincolnshire Record Society, 1891, pp. 38, 39.

kingdoms of the world. This stroke alike prostrated Christians, Jews, and Saracens. It annihilated at once the confessor and the penitent. This scourge in many places left less than a fifth part of the population surviving. It struck terror into the heart of the whole world. So great a pestilence before this time had never been seen, or heard of, or written of; for it is believed that not even so vast a multitude of people were swept away by the flood which happened in the days of Noah. The number of the dead who were buried before the midday meal was greater than those who were interred after it. In the year many Monks of Louth Park died, among them died Walter of Louth, Lord Abbot, on July 13th."

"The great mortality came to an end everywhere in England by Michaelmas, 1349. The pestilence had lasted some 14 months from its first appearance on the Dorset coast in the beginning of August, 1348 until its subsidence in the Northern Counties in the autumn of 1349. It came to an end, as all devastating epidemics do, through having spent all its force, exhausted its pabulum, run through all susceptible subjects."\* Such a calamity as the Black Death was overwhelming. Historians have written upon its far-reaching effects on the ecclesiastical, the political, and the social condition of the country, in all of

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\* Dr. Creighton's *Epidemics in Britain*, p. 177. Compare also the following: *Chronicle of a Monk of Thornton*; Lord F. Campbell's *Charters*, British Museum, xxi. 4, "A great and wonderful mortality of men in Lindsey from Easter to Michaelmas 1349."

which its consequences were most important. We have seen that it reached Lincoln and Louth. It may, very likely, have reached Partney, and its ravages there may quite possibly have been more terrible than on the neighbouring hills. We are told, too, that it followed upon a wet summer, and Partney, which lies low, would, in the days of inadequate drainage, feel the effects of such weather to a marked degree. Of course there have been many serious epidemics in England since the Great Pestilence. It was followed by others\* down to a "pestis quinta" in 1391. There was a very serious outbreak in 1479. Then all through the 16th century there was the "Sweating Sickness," which in its course in 1551 deprived the Duchess of Suffolk (Lady Willoughby d'Eresby) of both her sons. In 1585 the plague was very bad at Boston and the neighbourhood. The burials of the parish of Leake reached 104, the usual number being 20.† After 1611 came a period of general good health which lasted for 14 years, when outbreaks became frequent again. One of the worst fell upon the town of Louth, of which the sole particulars are "that the plague from April to the end of November 1631 swept away 754 persons, of whom nearly 500 died in July and August." ‡ In this same

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\* Compare the *Chronicle of a Monk of Thornton*, "Item, a third mortality in the Diocese of Lincoln in the vill of Skendleby and other places, 1369." Quoted by Rev. W. O. Massingberd in his *History of the Manor of Driby*.

† Thompson's *History of Boston*, p. 579.

‡ Dr. Creighton.

year a large number of deaths are marked in the Willoughby registers "de peste"; the mortality there was apparently at its highest in May and June.

Any one of these may have been the plague that ruined Partney, but it is not too much to say that the great plague of London of 1665 is the least likely of them all. We may indeed perhaps be still feeling the effects of the pestilence of 1349, as Dr. Jessopp tells us many places in Norfolk and Suffolk do. Nor is it at all improbable that a place which then lost half its population should decline in importance before the growing popularity of a neighbour built on what we must regard as the more healthy site, and having 40 years previously obtained, through the influence of the then Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, the right to hold a weekly market. There never can have been enough trade in the district for two market towns side by side. From the 14th century onward it became simply a case of "the survival of the fittest." \*

It may be that the past greatness of Partney is only a dream, but at least it is corroborated by the numerous traces of buildings found in various parts

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\* If the plague be responsible for the change in the relative positions of Partney and Spilsby as town and village, it must have been a much more severe outbreak than any modern epidemic. In 1759 there was a good deal of small pox in the neighbourhood. In the Spilsby registers 40 burials are marked with those ominous words, in Partney only 3: but this made no appreciable difference in the popularity of the two places both for residence and for trade.

of the parish ; in what is now the Fair Close ; in the Allotments on the Monks' road ; in the Top Greens behind the Red Lion Inn ; while a greater population, if not some serious mortality in the past, seems to be attested by the not infrequent digging up of human remains. At various alterations to the "Red Lion" premises, bones have been disturbed. In 1818 the making of a pit unearthed nine skulls. In 1826 the building of a new wing brought over thirty to the light of day. Even a few years ago, when it was necessary to dig a deep hole in the adjoining blacksmith's shop, the digger upturned three skulls. As has been already suggested, these buildings may have got on to the site of the Hospital, but it seems more likely that they are simply encroachments on the churchyard. It is very small, and, inclusive of the outside footpaths, its size was given in the award of 1840 as 2 roods 20 poles. It is doubtful if all the remains discovered in proximity to but outside its present boundary would, if we may suppose they really mean a larger churchyard, give us one as large, say, as Bolingbroke, which is also in the centre of the village. If it be asked when or why that which was once part of God's Acre has become lost to it, no answer can be given. Such encroachment is unhappily common enough. The churchyards of Fordington and Dexthorpe are quite lost. Our own generation is witnessing the gradual disappearance of that of Well. Up to 30 years ago no fence marked off Dalby from the Park ; and though the loss of

quite half the churchyard at Partney causes us sorrow, it is, alas ! no occasion for surprise.\*

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\* Dr. Atkinson, in his *Memorials of Old Whitby*, p. 195, gives a similar experience : "An additional space was required for the parish of Danby. It was obtained, added to the graveyard, on which it abutted on the east end, and consecrated in the year 1860. No long time elapsed before, in the process of grave-digging, it was discovered that the newly-added piece had already at some by no means distant time been used for the same purpose. Yet the bit that was added was taken from a field which had been one of the fields of the Church Home Farm, time out of mind. . . . In Domesday times there was a church at Seaton . . . I wanted to discover its precise site. I knew that stone coffins at least 3 in number had been dug up in one of the fields . . . But the site of the Church, and even of the graveyard, had been lost sight of, and the most exact information I could obtain was, 'It was somewhere about yon place on yon hillside.'" Very similar information is all that is forthcoming about Fordington and Dexthorpe, though I have been told that somewhere in the former parish a stone coffin was at one time used as a pump trough.





## CHAPTER VIII.

### A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

**S**OME time in 1764 there came a distinguished visitor to Partney.\* He walked over from Langton Hall, where he was staying as the friend and guest of the old squire's son. And one wonders if the good people of Partney could at all understand the character—as, no doubt, they would but little appreciate the appearance—of Samuel Johnson,† to whom the literary world of the day looked up with something like adoration, and whose opinion on any matter of literary taste no man even ventured to call in question. In our day the great lexicographer has been dethroned from his unquestioned literary superiority,

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\* See Boswell's *Life of Johnson* ; Dr. Birkbeck Hill's *Johnson and his friends*.

† Samuel Johnson, born 1709, died 1784, is better known to us by his title of "Doctor"—LL.D.—which the University of Dublin bestowed upon him, 1765. The University of Oxford, which he had left without taking a degree, made him M.A., 1755, in recognition of the completion of his Dictionary, and D.C.L. in 1775.



but we shall never cease to respect the man for his indomitable perseverance, his wide learning, and his kind heart ; and it casts something of the shadow of romance over us, that Peregrine Langton and his house at Partney will live for ever in the pages of the immortal Boswell. It was the old house opposite the Church, with the engraven stone in its eastern gable, that entertained this famous guest. You may sit in the same drawing-room, with its half-panelled walls, and look out into the same old-fashioned garden ; and, if you are very imaginative, you can conjure up before you that scene which Johnson seems to speak of, on “the summer morning” : the courtly old Peregrine Langton,\* who did so much on £200 a year, and his maiden sister as thrifty as he was ; the neice who lived with them and was, one would hope, the brightness of the household ; and the somewhat dreamy Bennet, with his gold snuff-box beside him, and his long legs tied into a knot that he might take up as little space as possible ; all of them—though they had never known poverty, and their pedigree went back to Norman times—listening with deepest deference to the son of a poor Lichfield bookseller, one of whose earliest literary ventures had been forced upon him that so he might pay the expenses of his mother’s funeral. It is unfortunate for us that Boswell (John-

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\* Peregrine Langton of Partney was younger son of George Langton of Langton, who died in 1727, aged 80, and brother of Bennet Langton, who died in 1769, aged 83. He was thus uncle of the younger Bennet, Johnson’s friend. He died in 1766, and was buried at Sausthorpe.



son's biographer) did not come with him on the occasion of his visit to Lincolnshire, and was, therefore, for this part of his story dependent on what he heard from others. We should so much have liked to have been told something of the route that was taken, and of the names and personalities of the people met. A few scraps only have been preserved. Before his visit to Langton, it was suggested to Johnson that, if he would take Holy orders, Mr. Langton, senior, had a Rectory—presumably Langton—to give him. He declined the offer, partly from conscientious motives and partly because his love of London life was so strong. What a difference it would have made to the literary life of England in the eighteenth century if Samuel Johnson had been Rector of Langton.\* The visit to Lincolnshire confirmed him in his opinion that he could not have been satisfied with a country living, for, talking of a respectable clergyman there, he observed, "this man fills up the duties of his life well. I approve of him, but could not imitate him." Johnson was before all things a lover of London, and of Fleet Street in particular. It was for the world of English literature a happy decision, and for the village of Langton

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\* In 1761 the Rev. Mr. Temple was Rector of Langton; in 1763 the Rev. Mr. Tonge; in 1764 the Rev. Dr. Uvedale. The latter married Diana, daughter of Bennet Langton, senior. In 1773 their daughter, Diana, was baptised at Sausthorpe, and in 1777 their son, Washbourne, at Partney. Dr. Uvedale died in 1799, and his widow in 1809. More recent Rectors of Langton have been: George Street from 1800 to 1856, and Henry Watson from 1857 to 1872.

probably not an unhappy one, that led him to decline a country Rectory. The London that he knew and loved has been so much altered that his old haunts have quite disappeared. Of the old Hall at Langton,\* where he stayed, but a few stones are left to mark the site. So Peregrine Langton's house at Partney is one of the few places still remaining which connects us with one of the most striking characters of the last century and with a man who occupies a unique position in English literature. He was a strange mixture of the wise and the frivolous, the agreeable and the ill-tempered. He quarrelled at one time very foolishly with Langton, but in his last illness was much comforted by the society of this one of his earliest and closest friends. Some years afterwards, Langton, walking with a friend to the top of a hill in the parish, traditionally believed to be that known as the Sheepwalks, told the story of how Johnson, taken to the same spot, declared he had not had a roll for a long time, and deliberately

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\* The oldest known Langton Hall was in the field to the S.E. of the Church, the site being marked by extensive mounds and remains of a moat. To this succeeded an Elizabethan mansion to the N.E. of the Church and near the present School-house, which was the one visited by Dr. Johnson. It is sometimes supposed to have been the original of "Locksley Hall," which is hardly likely as it was pulled down (about 1817) in consequence of an outbreak of typhoid fever before Alfred Tennyson (born 1809) was in his teens. In place of it the grandfather of the present proprietor built an Italian villa on the hill side, which, showing signs of subsidence, had to be pulled down in a few years (about 1845). A farmhouse served for a Hall for a time, and then the present mansion was built by B. R. Langton Esq., in 1866.

emptying his pockets of keys and purse and knife could not be dissuaded from lying down parallel with the edge of the hill and turning over and over till he came to the bottom.

Many of the letters preserved by Boswell contain allusions to the Langton family, and one of them must be given here. It is dated May 10th, 1766, and was written to Bennet Langton on receipt of the news from him of his uncle's death.

“In supposing that I should be more than commonly affected by the death of Peregrine Langton you were not mistaken : he was one of those whom I loved at once by instinct and by reason. I have seldom indulged more hope of anything than of being able to improve our acquaintance to friendship. Many a time have I placed myself again at Langton, and imagined the pleasure with which I should walk to Partney in a summer morning, but this is no longer possible. We must now endeavour to preserve what is left us, his example of piety and economy. I hope you make what enquiries you can and write down what is told you. The little things which distinguish domestic character are soon forgotten : if you delay to enquire you will have no information : if you neglect to write information will be in vain. His art of life certainly deserves to be known and studied. He lived in plenty and elegance upon an income which to many would appear indigent and to most scanty. How he lived, therefore, every man has an interest in knowing. His death I hope was peaceful : it was surely happy.”

“Mr. Langton,” says Boswell, “did not disregard this counsel, but wrote the following account which he has been pleased to communicate to me.”

No apology is needed for producing this account in full in these notes on Partney.

“The circumstances of Mr. Peregrine Langton were these. He had an annuity for life of £200 per annum. He resided in a village in Lincolnshire : the rent of his house with 2 or 3 small fields was £28 : the county he lived in was not more than moderately cheap : his family consisted of a sister, who paid him £18 annually for her board, and a niece. The servants were 2 maids and 2 men in livery. His common way of living, at his table, was 3 or 4 dishes : the appurtenances to his table were neat and handsome : he frequently entertained company at dinner, and then his table was well served with as many dishes as were usual at the tables of the other gentlemen in the neighbourhood. His own appearance as to clothes was genteelly neat and plain. He had always a postchaise and kept three horses. Such, with the resources I have mentioned, was his way of living, which he did not suffer to employ his whole income : for he had always a sum of money lying by him for any extraordinary expenses that might arise. Some money he put into the stocks : at his death the sum he had there amounted to £150. He purchased out of his income his household furniture and linen, of which latter he had a very ample store : and, as I am assured by

those that had very good means of knowing, not less than a tenth part of his income was set apart for charity : at the time of his death the sum of £25 was found with directions to be employed in such uses. He had laid down a plan of living proportioned to his income and did not practice any extraordinary degree of parsimony, but endeavoured that in his family there should be plenty without waste. As an instance that this was his endeavour it may be worth while to mention a method he took in regulating a proper allowance of malt liquor to be drunk in his family, that there might not be a deficiency or any intemperate profusion. On a complaint made that his allowance of a hogshead in a month was not enough for his own family, he ordered the quantity of a hogshead to be put into bottles, had it locked up from the servants and distributed out every day 8 quarts, which is the quantity each day at one hogshead in a month : and told his servants that if that did not suffice he would allow them more : but by this method it appeared at once that the allowance was much more than sufficient for his small family : and this proved a clear conviction that could not be answered and saved all future dispute. He was, in general, very diligently and punctually attended and obeyed by his servants : he was very considerate as to the injunctions he gave and explained them distinctly : and at their first coming to his service steadily exacted a close compliance with them without any remission : and the servants, finding

this to be the case, soon grew habitually accustomed to the practice of their business, and then very little further attention was necessary. On extraordinary instances of good behaviour or diligent service he was not wanting in particular encouragements and presents above their wages : it is remarkable that he would permit their relations to visit them and stay at his house 2 or 3 days at a time. The wonder, with most that hear an account of his economy, will be, how he was able, with such an income, to do so much, especially when it is considered that he paid for everything he had. He had no land except the 2 or 3 small fields which I have said he rented : and instead of gaining anything by their produce I have reason to think he lost by them : however, they furnished him with no further assistance towards his housekeeping than grass for his horses (not hay, for that I know he bought) and for 2 cows. Every Monday morning he settled his family accounts, and so kept up a constant attention to the confining his expenses within his income, and to do it more exactly compared those expenses with a computation he had made, how much that income would afford him every week and day of the year. One of his economical practices was, as soon as any repair was wanting in or about the house, to have it immediately performed. When he had money to spare, he chose to lay in a provision of linen or clothes or any other necessaries : as then he said he could afford it, which he might not be so well able to do when the actual want

came : in consequence of which method he had a considerable supply of necessary articles lying by him beside what was in use. But the main particular that seems to have enabled him to do so much with his income was that he paid for everything as soon as he had it, except alone what were current accounts, such as rent for his house and servants' wages : and these he paid at the stated times with the utmost exactness. He gave notice to the tradesmen of the neighbouring market towns that they should no longer have his custom if they let any of his servants have anything without their paying for it. Thus he put it out of his power to commit those imprudences to which those are liable that defer their payments by using their money some other way than where it ought to go. And whatever money he had by him, he knew that it was not demanded elsewhere, but that he might safely employ it as he pleased. His example was confined by the sequestered place of his abode to the observation of few, though his prudence and virtue would have made it valuable to all who could have known it. These few particulars which I know myself and have obtained from those who lived with him may afford instruction and be an incentive to that wise art of living which he successfully practised."

It was, indeed, a piece of wonderful management : seven grown-up persons, and three horses and two cows kept in plenty on a total income of £218 a year !





## CHAPTER IX.

### PARISH REGISTERS, BOOKS, AND PAPERS.



THE oldest Register\* now remaining in the Church chest at Partney begins in 1699 and ends 1812. It consists of 19 parchment leaves, two of which are blank,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  in. by 7 in., which were neatly bound together in 1813. The heading of the first page is, "Registrum Baptizatorum, Nuptorum et Sepultorum in Parochia de Partney Anno Dni 1699." The entries are made in Latin down to the end of the year 1731, and the uniformity of handwriting seems to imply that the Book was made up not oftener than once a year. From time to time we find "generosus" (of gentle birth) added to names presumably those of leading inhabitants, and when the use of Latin is given up the prefix "Mr." seems to be reserved for

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\* Parish Registers were ordered to be kept in England in 1538. It will be at once seen how much has been lost at Partney, though it should be remembered by parishioners and others in need of the information that there are transcripts in the Diocesan Registry at Lincoln of the 100 years previous to 1699.



those of more importance than the rest. Some of the entries of more general interest are given here :—

- 1702 Burial : "Maria uxor Johannis Peach,  
generosi."  
1716 „ "Johannis Peach, gen."  
1706 „ "Elizabetha uxor Radulphi Ruge-  
ley, gen."  
1720 „ "Radulphus Rugeley, generosus."

After this there are numerous entries of members of the Harrison and May families, some of whom appear in the old account books as the largest ratepayers.

- 1719 Burial : "Matheas Harrison."  
1727 „ "Alicia Harrison, vidua."  
1739 „ John Harrison.  
1762 „ Mary Harrison, widow.  
1798 „ Mr. John Harrison,\* grazier,  
aged 66.  
1811 „ Mrs. Harrison, widow, aged 85.  
1744 „ Trotha, wife of Mr. Humphrey  
May.  
1749 „ Elizabeth, wife of Samuel May.  
1769 „ Samuel May, aged 74.  
1779 „ Mr. Humphrey May, aged 90.  
1803 „ Humphrey May, grazier, aged 78.  
1805 „ Mrs. Mary May, aged 81. †

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\* He had been baptised at Partney in 1732, and married in 1762 Susannah Bowen of Langton.

† 1762 Marriage of Humphrey May and Mary Mitchell, both of Partney. This is the only occasion on which the signature of the Rev. R. Stevens, Rector, appears in the parish books.

Other miscellaneous entries are :

- 1724 Robertus Thorp, sepultus, aged 90.
- 1729 Josephus Donaby, sepultus, aged 93.
- 1750 Mr. Robert Cook buried.
- 1758 Mr. Thomas Ware, butcher and grazier,  
buried, aged 72.
- 1759 Three deaths from smallpox.
- 1761 Two ditto.
- 1761 Mr. John Chamberlain buried, aged 62.
- 1765 Mr. John Bowring buried, aged 70.
- 1767 Burial : Lawrence Draper, farmer, aged 52.
- 1772 „ Mrs. Elizabeth Jennings, widow,  
aged 86.
- 1773 „ Mary Jobson, a widow, aged 93.
- 1775 „ Mrs. Susanna Rickerby, widow,  
aged 61. (Apparently inside the  
Church. There is a large slab  
inscribed with her name on the  
floor of the south aisle).
- 1776 „ John Robinson, parish clerk,\*  
aged 67.

From 1775 to 1780 the Rev. Robert Uvedale, D.D., sometime Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Rector of Langton, was living here, probably in the house formerly occupied by Peregrine Langton. He married Diana, daughter of Bennet Langton, senior. In the Surveyor's accounts for 1775 Dr. Uvedale was assessed at 2/- for keeping "a chaise." There is a

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\* His successors appear to have been :—John Smith ; — Calvert ; William Stainton, buried 1858 ; Thomas Basker, buried 1867 ; Joseph Graves ; Robert Bond.

mural tablet to the memory of himself and his wife in Langton Church. The Uvedales had been for many generations freeholders in Scremby.

1777 Baptism of Washbourne Uvedale.

In the same year "the Rev. Mr. John Basker" had a child baptised. Neither of these clergymen seems to have been responsible for the services at Partney Church, which, judging from the registers, were taken by Richard Vesey.

1778 Three deaths from smallpox.

1785 Jan. 7th. "Received of the Rev. Mr. Tyler the sum of 2 shillings being all then due to the tax on births and burials. Thos. Barr."

The following extract from Mr. R. E. C. Waters' *Book on Parish Registers* will best explain this: "The Stamp Act of 1783 for the first time imposed a duty of 3d. upon every entry in the parish register. . . . The new tax fell lightly on the rich and pressed heavily on the poor, placing the clergyman in the invidious light of a tax-gatherer; and as the poor were often unable or unwilling to pay the tax, the clergy had a direct inducement to retain their goodwill by keeping the registers defective. The Act extended to Scotland, and excited there an outburst of popular indignation . . . and as the statute virtually bestowed a premium on negligence and omissions, whole parishes, and even counties, discontinued the practice of registration. The obnoxious statute was repealed in 1794."

- 1790 Burial : " Hannah, wife of the Rev. W. Tuting, aged 27, buried in the Church."
- 1790 „ July 11th. Edward Burr, an out-pensioner of Chelsea Hospital.
- 1798 William Emmitt Baines, "Baptised by Mr. Harley, March 18th."
- 1799 Burial : " Mr. Ellis Key, gent.," aged 38. (He had lived in the house now known as the Grange since 1790. The brick and stone altar tomb in the churchyard is his).\*
- 1801 April. Marriage of " Matthew Flinders, Commander in His Majesty's Royal Navy, and Ann Chappelle of this parish."

Matthew Flinders,† an eminent navigator, was born at Donington near Boston, March 16th, 1774. He entered the Navy in 1790, and in 1801 was appointed to command an expedition of discovery in the South Seas, where he had already gained considerable experience. On this occasion John Franklin went with him as a midshipman. After exploring a considerable part of the coast of Australia the ship was wrecked. Flinders, returning home to England in another vessel, was obliged to put in at Mauritius, then a French possession. He was detained by the governor for seven years and not released till 1810.

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\* His successors in this house appear to have been :—Robert Rinder, buried January 26th, 1814 ; Mary Rinder, widow ; Thomas Wright Tonge ; Mrs. Cheales ; Charles Burgess.

† See *Dictionary of National Biography*.

He prepared for the press a narrative of his voyages, but died July 19th, 1814, before it was published.

1802 A general inoculation this year.

Raised the composition for tithes £25 per annum.

1808. Oct. 11th. To receive 2 shillings an acre from Lady Day as composition for tithes for 7 years.

1811 Mr. John Barron from Spilsby buried.

*Burials Book beginning 1813 and still in use.*

1814 March 10th. James Flanner, M.A., Rector of Partney twenty-three years, aged 58. T. H. Rawnsley, officiating minister.

1818. July 8th. Field Flowers, Rector of this parish, aged 46. Dr. Mead, off. minister. [Rector of Candlesby].

This was in a vault at the chancel steps; his widow and a daughter were subsequently buried there.

1836 Sept. 10th. Fanny Flowers, aged 23.

1842 Sept. 13th. Mary Flowers, aged 66: she had died at Stoke in Devonshire.

1826 March 24th. Frances Burr, Partney, aged 98 years.

"This age was a conjecture. Mrs. Burr was probably more. Being then 20 or 22 years old she was present with her first husband, — Currey, a soldier, at the battle of Fontenoy, 1745. Her second husband, Edward Burr, also a soldier, was about 45

when Fontenoy was fought, as appears from a sworn statement of his respecting his settlement. This second marriage took place at Partney, August 9th, 1770."—J. W. B.

1842 Elizabeth, wife of T. W. Tonge, aged 79.

1860 Ten burials marked "scarlet fever."

1872 Robert Rowland Litchford, aged 85.

1886. Jan. 30th. Frederick Flowers, Recorder of Stamford, 1862-4. Magistrate at Bow Street, 1864-86. His widow was buried beside him, July 21st, 1894.

1886 May 3rd. Frances Elizabeth Maddison.

1886 July 27th. William Thurlby, Churchwarden, aged 45.

1887 No adult died at Partney, an unprecedented circumstance.

1888 June 13th. George Wilson Maddison, J.P.

#### ACCOUNT BOOKS.

The oldest account book remaining is the "Surveyor's Bill" of 1767. The principal ratepayers at that time were :—

	£	s.	d.
John Harrison . . .	139	0	0
Humphrey May, junior .	90	0	0
Thomas Gill . . .	59	0	0
Joseph Burton . . .	50	0	0

In 1770 these had changed a little :—

John Harrison . . .	148	0	0
George Cartwright . .	66	0	0
Joseph Burton . . .	67	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Gill . . .	59	0	0
Humphrey May . . .	41	0	0

In 1771 Peregrine Emmitt is assessed at £263, which includes, apparently, the sum charged for so many years to John Harrison.

In 1785 the principal ratepayers were :—

	£	s.	d.
Peregrine Emmitt . . .	223	0	0
James Hairby . . .	85	10	0
George Cartwright . . .	75	0	0
Joseph Burton . . .	65	0	0
Messrs. Wright & Watson .	97	15	0

In 1790 Peregrine Emmitt had become still more important, and was assessed at £336. He was a very famous farmer in his time, bought and sold an enormous quantity of stock and occupied a very large acreage in other parishes besides Partney. In those days all the meat sold in London had to walk there, and it was an important question for buyers which class of animal could travel best to Smithfield. Mr. Emmitt always rode to London to superintend the sale of the stock he had bought in the Partney neighbourhood, and returned home with the money in his pocket. Many stories are still remembered of his narrow escapes from highwaymen. He lived at Partney, in the house now known as the rectory, but died at Sausthorpe, where he owned a considerable property, in 1826, aged 94. He is buried in the churchyard there. Having no children of his own

he left his large fortune to the children of Mr. William Banes, who had married his sister, on condition that they took the name and arms of Emmitt.

From 1791 to 1812 John Johnson, "Doctor of Physick," was living here in the house now known as "the Hall."

In 1835 the principal ratepayers were :—

	£	s.	d.
J. H. Bourne . . .	31	15	0
Joseph Burton . . .	68	15	0
Mrs. Emmitt . . .	35	10	0
Wm. Holderness . . .	46	10	0
Joseph Lyall . . .	51	0	0
G. W. Maddison . . .	152	10	0
Jno. Stainton . . .	80	10	0
G. and J. Wilson . . .	219	5	0
T. W. Tonge . . .	37	0	0

At this time some description of properties is generally given, and so we learn that

Joseph Burton	occupied a farm house
Joseph Clake	„ a victualling house
Cornelius Goodwin	„ the mill
Joseph Lyall	„ a malt kiln
Wm. North	„ a tan yard
Wm. Mawer	„ a shop
Mrs. Redmore	„ „
Joseph Smith	„ „
William Thompson	„ a public house and malt kiln
G. & J. Wilson	„ a farm house



This last was no doubt an old house, since pulled down to give place to a smaller and more modern one which goes with Lord Willoughby's land. Judging from the Parish Books the successive tenants of this the most important farm in the parish have been :—

	Matthew Harrison.
1719	John Harrison, senior.
1739	Mrs. Harrison.
1762	John Harrison, junr.
1779	Peregrine Emmitt.
1798	Thomas Garfit.
1811	Charles Barton.
1815	Garmston Chapman.
1828	Gildon and John Wilson.
1859	William Starmer.
1868	Harwood Mackinder.

#### VESTRY BOOKS.

The oldest Vestry Book was purchased in 1821, and the more interesting records in it are those which refer to the administration of the "poor law." The first entry is a copy of the summons for a parish meeting called to discuss the question whether Partney should join with Dalby and Ashby for the building of a workhouse. The meeting was duly held, and it was agreed that it was expedient to build such a workhouse. A committee was appointed consisting of two gentlemen from each of the three parishes. At a second meeting it was agreed that the workhouse be built by contract, and

then—we hear no more about it. Four years afterwards it was agreed that the parish should join Tetford workhouse, but nothing came of that either.

It was usual each year to appoint a select vestry of from 13 to 17 persons to conduct the affairs of the parish, and they seem to have met once a fortnight. Indeed, under “the old poor law” they generally had something to do, and it is but seldom the book is marked “no business.” The reason of this was that the parish attended to the relief of its own poor. Such poor as were in it were relieved by local rates solely, the overseer was the relieving officer, the doctor was paid by bill. Then, it being purely a matter of internal management who should be relieved, it was to the interest of the parishioners that no one should come in from elsewhere, “intrude” as it was called, who was at all likely to become chargeable on the rates. No sooner was it known that a new labourer or small tradesman had settled, it might be even without wife or family, in the place, than the overseer procured from the officials of the parish the newcomer had just left a certificate that he had a legal “settlement” with them. Similarly no such person could leave Partney without a certificate. There are in the parish chest copies of three kinds of documents: certificates from the churchwardens and overseers of some parish that they owned so and so as legally settled among them; formal demands to the Partney officials to receive some one who had come upon the rates elsewhere without losing his Partney settlement; and examinations sworn before magis-

trates of a man's past life and movements to determine what parish he had still a claim upon. So completely have these things passed out of our life that a specimen of each of the three forms may very well be appended here :—

“We . . . and . . . Churchwardens and Overseers of the parish of . . . do hereby own and acknowledge . . . his wife and child to be inhabitants legally settled in the parish of . . . aforesaid. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this . . . ”; and this part of the document having been duly signed in the presence of witnesses, there follows : “To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the Parish of Partney. We whose names are hereunto subscribed, 2 of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the parts of Lindsey do allow of the above written Certificate. And we do also certify that . . . the witness who attested the Execution of the said Certificate has made oath before us that he did see the Churchwardens and Overseers whose names and seals are here subscribed and set, severally sign and seal the said Certificate and that the names of the said . . . whose names are above subscribed as witnesses to the execution of the said Certificate are of their own proper handwriting. Dated . . . ” Then follow the magistrates' signatures.

“The examination of . . . of Partney, Labourer, touching the place of his last settlement, taken on complaint of the Churchwardens and Over-

seers of the Poor of the Parish of Partney aforesaid upon oath before us, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said parts this . . . day of . . . Who saith that 6 years old May day last he hired a cottage in Partney of . . . at a rent of . . . where he now resides and that he hath not since done any act to gain a settlement elsewhere."

"Who saith that he is 43 years of age: that he was born at . . . but does not know, nor was ever informed by any person whatsoever the place of his father's settlement. That he was brought up by his cousin . . . of . . . till he was about 13 years of age, but was never hired for a year to his said cousin at any time during that term. Then that he worked in several parishes and places for about 2 years but was never hired servant for a year in any one place during that time. That when he was 15 years of age he was pressed on board his Majesty's service and continued therein 5 years when he enlisted himself as a Volunteer into his Majesty's 19th Regt. of Foot and continued therein 16 years when he was discharged from the said Regt. And he farther saith that he never rented £10 a year, served any parish office, paid any parish rates, nor did any act to gain a settlement in his own right in any manner howsoever."

"Upon complaint of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the parish of . . . unto us whose names are hereunto set being two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the parts of

Lindsey that . . . and his wife have lately come to inhabit the parish of . . . not having gained a legal settlement there and that the said . . . and his wife have now become chargeable to the parish of . . . We the said Justices upon due proof made thereof &c. do adjudge that the lawful settlement of . . . and his wife is in the Parish of Partney and we do therefore require you the Chwardens and Overseers of the parish of . . . to convey the said . . . and his wife from and out of your parish of . . . to the said parish of Partney."

It is difficult for us to realise that these things were done up to 50 years ago and that the isolation of country people was thus further and wilfully aggravated by checks put upon the free employment of labour. The system produced its own crop of lawsuits and its own technical terms. Parishes were known as "open" and "close." The latter were those of which all the land belonged to one or two proprietors, who thus, to make sure of no one coming on the rates, simply abstained from building cottages, and compelled those who worked on their land to find houseroom in some "open" parish that would take them in. Partney was an "open" parish. It belonged to several proprietors, amongst them many small freeholders. Such persons were not deterred even by threatened high rates from building a very inferior class of cottage which could be let for a good rent. The existence of this state of things is the

explanation of much of the social life of Partney as we see it at the present day. Our decline in population is largely due to the fact that our larger population was on a fictitious basis. It was large simply because labourers, while finding work in the "close" parishes of Langton, Sausthorpe and Dalby, had to find houses in the "open" parish of Partney. The doing away of this distinction has naturally been followed by a decline. We still see the relic of the system in the inferior class of cottage squeezed on to some small bit of ground which now, happily, the law would prevent from becoming ever again the home of a large family. Nay rather, the improvement in the purchasing power of his money, the raising of his standard of comfort, his greater self-respect and independence, would prevent the labourer of to-day from entertaining the thought of taking his wife and children to occupy the quarters that had been deemed good enough for his grandfather.

A great alteration has come over the position and duties of the Overseer. Under the old system the claims upon him were of the most varied and curious kind. He it was who superintended the weekly "collection" to some one who had "come upon the parish." He it was who did all the work of disbursement the "select vestry" might order :

60 pecks of potatoes towards feeding B's pig :

£2 to C towards paying his Michaelmas rent :

Such medicine and advice for D as he (the overseer) might choose to order :

Two shirts and a pair of shoes for E :

A washwoman one day a week to help F :

A pig to be bought :

A boy to be apprenticed :

A general vaccination of paupers :

A prosecution of G "for selling the parish shovel :"

A pair of boots for H "if he provide himself with a strong jacket :"

Coals, clothes and rent to almost anyone who choose to ask it, though the vestry struck sometimes, as when "M's wife applied for relief but thought her not a proper object, her husband earning 18/- a week," or when "W's allowance on the road was taken off on account of drunkenness."

Then there was the examination of a newcomer as to his "settlement," and perhaps the overseer must see about getting him out of the parish again, not because he was a bad character, but simply if he was likely to become chargeable. In 1829 the vestry heard that a boy "lame and infirm" was going to be apprenticed to a tailor in the parish, and rather than have him they went before the magistrates about it and got him sent home again.

But Partney knew that if it did not want unsatisfactory residents it could not always be rid of them by moving them into another parish, so it did not hesitate sometimes to help them to America, where there would be no question asked as to "settlement."

The Vestry took quite an interest in the ailments of its pensioners. "An operation being required for A. B., Mr. C., the surgeon, undertakes to free the parish of all expense on payment of 2 guineas:" "C. D. to consult Mr. C. on account of his deafness, and if an operation be necessary the same to be done at the parish expense:" "E. F. earnestly requested to have a bottle of Sibley's Solar Tincture which the overseer is to buy for him."

Like everything else the old system could give good reason for its existence and trace its origin to, and development from, an entirely different state of things. Worked as it was in the first 30 years of this century, it was rapidly demoralising the labouring classes and increasing the poverty and wretchedness it professed to relieve. That the present system (the New Poor Law of 1834) is not perfect not even its most ardent admirer would contend, but that on the whole the changes have been wise and just few who know anything at all about the matter will be prepared to deny. We need not suppose that the administration of the old law was better or worse in Partney than elsewhere. It was just the system itself that was at fault, and to the system we owe some of the most serious moral and social evils, which to a thoughtful person must ever be cause for anxiety and regret.

Under the jurisdiction of the Vestry came also the ordering of repairs and improvements to the fabric of the Parish Church.



Notices of the meetings were given out in Church "immediately after Divine Service," and the meetings were held in Church, though often adjourned elsewhere. The expenses were provided for by a rate varying in amount from two to six pence.

1827 A meeting was held to take into consideration "the order of the Archdeacon of Lincoln at his visitation held at Spilsby." It was ordered that an estimate be made "of the repairs and alterations of the pews as soon as possible." Later it was arranged that these repairs be taken in hand under the direction of Mr. Edward Rainey of Spilsby, at a cost of £38.

1828 The Vestry was summoned to take into consideration terms for purchasing an organ for the Parish Church, and was naturally very indignant when nobody appeared with a definite proposition.

1842 Repairs to the roof of the south aisle necessitated the levying of a double rate.

1845 Repairs to the porch required a rate of 5 pence.

1847 A salary of £3 10s. od. was allowed to the parish clerk.

1854 The Vestry took into consideration the best way to repair the Parish Church.

1861 It was reported to the Vestry that the sum of £1,000 would be required to repair the Parish Church. It was agreed to ask for a loan of £300 from the Commissioners empowered to

make advances for public works. This was altered next year to £200, being part of £240 estimated to be the cost of rebuilding the south aisle.

- 1864 The salary of the parish clerk was raised from £3 10s. od. to £4 10s. od., and the payment made to him for winding the clock increased from 10/- to £1.
- 1865 The Vestry, taking into consideration the dilapidated state of the tower, requested the Rector that the bells be not raised except for special occasions.\*
- 1872 Resolved that on and after April 6th a lock be placed on each of the gates leading into the churchyard, so that the pathway leading through the churchyard may be disused as a public path on all days except Sundays.

In confirmation of the orders of the Vestry we have the Overseer's book for 1805.

Generally the amounts cover the same ground year after year : payment of the weekly "collections," relief to distressed "travellers," coals and clothes for paupers, repairs to the poorhouses, and funeral expenses and the doctor's bill.

Four times a year there was a payment of "county stock," some £20 or £30 per annum, being the parochial contribution to the county government :

Three guineas (and sometimes five) to the overseer for "standing office :"

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\* The tower was repaired and strengthened in 1884.

Postage of letters, an important item when to send a letter into Warwickshire cost  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d., and even to Alford 4d :

Legal expenses, sometimes very heavy, on disputed questions of settlement :

For many years a "contribution towards Northolme poor," and payment to "the Overseers of Barton for the militiaman's children."

There were a few charges of a different kind : the payment to the Lord of the Manor of £1 1s. od. a year "for waste land," and fees at the "Court leet"; payments for "Paradise Land," apparently at the rate of 1s. 6d. a year, to Lord Willoughby, and 1s. to the Lord of the Manor of Skendleby. In 1812 the former had got sadly in arrear, and there is the item "paid Lord Gwydir  $12\frac{1}{2}$  years' rent 12s. 6d." In 1826 the Overseer paid "the Rev. E. Brackenbury  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years' rent for land called Paradise not to be paid in future without further consideration." It continued to be paid though fallen into arrears, "1835 paid to Major Brackenbury for  $7\frac{1}{2}$  years 7s. 6d."

Some of the items are curious :—

1811 "Paid for 10 men's dinners the day the jurey went round the sewers 17s. od."

Paid for getting coals into the Church 8s. reminds us that part of the Church was used as "the Town's Coal House," whence the allowances to paupers were from time to time weighed out. Perhaps this came to an end in 1820, when there was the payment of £7 9s. od. for a coalhouse, and the whole system

was altered in 1827, when the coalhouse was ordered to be pulled down.

1826 Paid J. A. £1 4s. 6d. "Dog Watching." This, as appears from the vestry book, was in consequence of serious depredations by some unknown dog on the farmers' sheep. It will be noted that that which caused direct injury to a few of the rate-payers was remedied at the expense of all.

1833 Paid for a horse and gig to Grimsby £1 1s. od.

#### PARISH OFFICERS.

Space will not permit that a complete list of all holders of parish offices should be given. As it was the custom for a man to serve in some or all of the capacities, constable, surveyor of highways, assessor of taxes, overseer and churchwarden, and the same name would occur in these different offices for different years, it will be sufficient to give a list of the Churchwardens compiled from the vestry books since 1821, prefixing such names as we have notice of at an earlier date.

- 1587 John Ormsby.
- 1590 John Walgrave.
- 1594 Thomas Walgrave.
- 1602 William Moody.
- 1606 Edward Jackson and Edmund Gaule.
- 1608 Thomas Walgrave.
- 1626 William Thory.
- 1715 (?) John Peach and John Wayet.

1821	Wm. Holderness	G. W. Maddison.
1822-3	„	Richard Goodwin.
1824	„	T. W. Tonge.
1825	G. W. Maddison	„ and to 1829.
1829	Wm. Holderness	„
1830	Wm. Mawer	„
1831	Wm. Holderness	„ and to 1835.
1835	„	G. W. Maddison.
1836-7	George Holderness	T. W. Tonge.
1838	G. W. Maddison	„ and to 1841.
1841	George Holderness	„ and to 1845.
1845-6	„	Wm. Thompson.
1847-8	John Hale	„
1849	„	Thomas Andrews
1850	„	Samuel Burton, and to 1857.
1857	Thomas Andrews	William Sharp.
1858-9	„	Henry Bonnett.
1860	„	Wm. Starmer.
1861	Wm. Thompson	„
1862	„	W. S. Mawer.
1865	„	John Mawer, and to 1869.
1869	„	Samuel Warren, and to 1873.
1873	„	Kirkman Andrews, to 1876.
1876	„	Adam Hodgson.
1877-8	„ (alone).	
1879	Henry Thompson (alone).	

- 1880 William Thurlby (alone) till his death, 1886.  
1887 Adam Hodgson, to 1890.  
1890 Prestwood Parker Hodgson, who at present holds the office.

## PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

Hackley's Charity.—On a board in the Church is the following :—

The gift of Mr. Thos. Hackley of London, who died November 4th, 1719. "I give and bequeath to the Parish of Partney in Lincolnshire where my Father was minister one hundred Pounds for ever to be put out to Interest on a mortgage or upon such security as the minister and churchwardens of the said parish with John Anderson Sen<sup>r</sup>. Barber Surgeon of the parish of Spilsby in the county aforesaid shall approve of. And the interest thereof and that shall arise hereby I give and bequeath to the poor of the said Parish to be distributed yearly the Sunday before Christmas at the discretion of the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Partney and the said John Anderson: and I do desire the said John Anderson to be overseer thereof and after the decease of the said John Anderson Sen<sup>r</sup>. I appoint his son overseer."

No notice of the above occurs in the vestry book beyond the warning in 1829 that pauper boys making bonfires on November 5th would have no share in it at Christmas time.

The money is at present invested in a close of pasture land at Burgh-le-Marsh, and produces

£4 10s. od. per annum, which is distributed by the Rector and Churchwarden on the Sunday before Christmas.

The old vestry book begins with an account of "land belonging to the poor of the Parish of Partney." It is as follows :—

	s.	d.
Late Andrews Town's piece occupied		
by 6 tenants . . . . .	6	0
Church Gatestead . . . . .	1	6
To be paid out of Sweet Bits to		
Parish Clerk for dog whipping .	2	6
Ox close . . . . .	1	6
	<hr/>	
	11	6
	<hr/>	

1838 It was unanimously agreed and ordered that the several gardens, now occupied by parish paupers, called or known by the name of Andrews Garth or Andrews Garden be immediately sold for defraying the expenses of building the Union Workhouse and furnishing the same.

1862 It was agreed that the Guardians of the Poor of the Spilsby Union should sell "4 poor-houses with the land upon which they stand."

No further steps appear to be taken on this matter until 1870 when the resolution was re-affirmed and acted upon.

This refers to the Church Gatestead or Paradise Land.

The poor of the parish, in addition to Hackley's Charity, receive now the rents of:—

A field of 3 acres, producing about £6.

A piece of garden ground „ „ £2.

The payment for dog-whipping from a piece of land near the mill has lapsed for several years.

#### CURIOUS NAMES.

The following curious or unusual names occur in the parish registers and other documents contained in the Church chest:—

Amata, Artindale (for a daughter), Asaph, Avice or Avis, Azubah, Betteris, Christiana, Demaris, Elleanor, Euphane, Jairus, Judith, Jenetta or Jaunetta, Mallisa, Mehetabel, Petronella, Prudence, Sendoniah and Saintdonia, Saint Patrick, Shadrach, Theodosia and Theodoshea, Trotha, Thirza and Teresa, Zaccheus.

#### FIELD NAMES.

Andrews Garth, Andrews Acre, Balm Close, Cadington's Barrow, Chantry Garth, East Field, West Field, Fair Close, Fair Park, Fair Hill, High Greens or Top Greens, Low Greens, High and Low Toft Fen, Harding's Close, Harding's Lane (or Arden's), Haycrofts, Kent's Close, Lambriggs, Monks' Close, High Monks, Low Monks, Monks' Lane, Ox Close, Paradise Land, Redlands, Rout Yard, Rowlands, Stirbecks, Sweet Bits, Watery Lane, Great Withwongs.

#### THE SCHOOL.

From the Chapter Acts of Lincoln Cathedral it appears that in June, 1329, licence was granted to



certain Clerks to Grammar Schools in the Diocese, among them John de Upton to Partney. The other places mentioned are Barton, Grimsby, Horncastle, Boston and Grantham.\*

After this we have no notices of attempts at education for the parish until we come to modern times. The Rev. T. E. Miller, who came here as Curate in 1850, seems to have been the first to make an effort, and he held a night school in the large room of the Red Lion inn. Mr. Giles, who succeeded him, tried a day school on his own premises, and some of the older parishioners got all their schooling in what is now the rectory coach house.

The present schoolhouse was built in 1857, on a site granted by Lord Willoughby d'Eresby for the purpose. Under the trust deed the management is vested in "the principal officiating minister of the parish," and four other persons continuing to subscribe £1 per annum to the school funds and signing a declaration of membership of the Church of England. In case of vacancies subscribers of 10/- per annum elect.

The School is affiliated to the "National Society," and complies with those regulations of the Acts of Parliament which constitute it "a public elementary

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\* Communicated by the Rev. A. R. Maddison to *Lincs. N. & Q.*, Vol. v., No. 33. He adds: "The fact of Partney being associated with places like Boston and Grantham only affords additional proof of its consequence in mediæval times. The decline of its prosperity may possibly have been owing to the Black Death which depopulated England a few years after."

school." The following have acted as masters : —

....	T. Timms.
1867	Sidney John Harris.
1870	Hugh R. McIntosh.
1872	Joseph Watson.
1877	John H. Fell.
1882	Chas. H. Carpenter.
1889	W. T. Smith.
1890	William Musgrave.
1894	Harry Flint.

#### POPULATION.

It is the universal tradition in the parish that Partney once had a much larger population than any recorded in modern times. A few facts may perhaps point to this conclusion, but on the whole such evidence as we have is rather against it.

We must not rely upon the returns of sokemen and bordars in *Domesday Book* as being an absolutely complete account of the population and proving that Partney contained no more than 300 souls, but at least a comparison of the returns affecting this parish with those for its neighbours gives no foundation for any idea that in 1086 Partney was especially populous.

When we come to the return of 1327 we find that there were 19 persons assessed to the total sum of 38s. 8d. At the same time Ashby-by-Partney, always supposed to have been a small place, contributed 30s., Orby 40s., and South Ormsby 43s. 10d.

from 29 persons. This again seems to show that there was no difference in favour of Partney as regards wealth and population compared with these last.

The number of families in Partney was given in the reign of Queen Elizabeth as 51.\* This would mean a population of barely 300. At the same time the number of families in neighbouring parishes was as follows :—

Skendleby	.	.	.	.	.	27
Scremby-with-Grebby	.	.	.	.	.	23
Huttoft	.	.	.	.	.	80
Alford	.	.	.	.	.	101
Langton-by-Partney	.	.	.	.	.	25
Bolingbroke	.	.	.	.	.	60
Halton	.	.	.	.	.	63
Spilsby	.	.	.	.	(no return)	

Again nothing remarkable about Partney.

Since a more careful and exact census has been attempted in this century the following have been the returns here :—

1801	.	.	261
1811	.	.	296
1821	.	.	293
1831	.	.	389
1841	.	.	468
1851	.	.	489
1861	.	.	487
1871	.	.	495

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\* See *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. v., p. 8.

1881	.	.	442
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1891	.	.	345
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Since this last date the population has declined considerably. It is now in 1898 about what it was in 1801.







DALBY PARK.



## CHAPTER X.

### SOME NOTES ON DALBY.

**T**HE parish of Dalby is larger in acreage than Partney—1315 as compared with 920—but its population appears to have always been smaller. In 1891 it was 107. For civil purposes the parish includes Dexthorpe with a population of 28, but ecclesiastically this, which was formerly a separate benefice, has been united with Well. The rectory of Well, with Dexthorpe, has since been consolidated with the vicarage of Claxby.

The notice of the parish in *Domesday Book*\* is under the lands of Earl Hugh. "In Sutterby, Dalby and Dexthorpe there are 15 carucates of land rateable to gelt, the land is 16 carucates. 47 sokemen and 18 villeins and 11 bordars have there 11 carucates. In Dalby the Earl has one carucate in demesne and 2 churches and 80 acres of meadow." Earl Hugh de Albrincis, or Avranches, called Hugh Lupus or Hugh the Wolf, received from William I. the Earldom of Chester. He died in 1101 and was succeeded by his

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\* *Domesday Book for Lincolnshire*, p. 78.

only son. This second Earl was drowned in "the White Ship" with Prince William, son of Henry I., and many of the nobility, in 1119. The property was then divided, and Dalby was part of the portion that fell to the Earl of Albemarle. The heiress of this family, Avelina de Fortibus, married Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, younger son of Henry III., and her possessions, though she died without issue in 1273, passed to the holders of that dignity.

In 1296 John de Orby was found to have been tenant of the Manor of Dalby with lands in Dexthorpe, Partney, Wainfleet, Ulceby, and elsewhere,\* owing "3 fees by suit of court of Greetham" to the Earl of Lancaster.

In 1353 William de Irby of Fordington and Florence his wife sold to Thomas Walshe of Alford for 100 marks of silver a messuage, 3 tofts, 5 acres of meadow, 3 acres of pasture and one penny rent and the moiety of a messuage and one carucate in Dalby, Dexthorpe, Partney, and Langton.

In 1576 the Manor of Dalby, formerly of John de Orby, Knight, late of William Brereton, Knight, "was held by William Brereton, Esq., of the Queen as of her Duchy of Lancaster by the service of half the fee of a Knight." The manor included lands in Dalby, Dexthorpe, Partney, Waynfleet, Ulceby, &c.† He was also holding it in 1595, and Henry Smalney was his tenant.‡

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\* *Inquisitiones post mortem*, Vol. i., p. 143.

† *Duchy of Lancaster Records*, Class xxv., Bundle P., No. 29.

‡ *Calendar of Pleadings in Duchy of Lancaster*, p. 331.



At the beginning of the next century we find members of the Llanden family here. William Llanden died in 1621, and there is a small monument to him in the Church. It shows a lady and gentleman kneeling facing one another, and has the following inscription :—"Neere this place lyeth the bodies of William Llanden Esq<sup>r</sup> and Alice his wife who lived together neere 40 yeeres. They had issue 4 sonnes and 4 daughters vizt William Thomas Benedict and Philip Ellen and Katherine who died very young Ann and Katherine now livinge. Twoe of the sayde sonnes out of their filial love vizt William Llanden the eldest Esq<sup>r</sup> and Sir Philip Llanden Knighte caused this monument to be erected at their owne proper coste in memory of their saide parents which changed mortality for immortality in the yeare of grace 1621." The whole is surmounted by a shield "Gules a lion rampant or, a canton ermine and erminois." Below is another with the same arms impaling "Argent fretty sable in a canton gules a rose of the first." William Llanden the younger appears among the Justices of the Peace for Lindsey in 1626,\* and also in the list of gentry entitled to bear arms at the Herald's Visitation, 1634.\* His brother Sir Philip's name is also in this last, and he is described as of Hundleby. From the *Royalist Composition Papers* in the Record Office it appears that William Llanden took the King's side in the great Civil War, and so earned for

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\* *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. iv., p. 183.

†       "       "       "       Vol. ii, p. 71.

himself from the victorious Parliament the name of "delinquent." He died in 1653, leaving a widow Margaret, formerly Abbot of London, and his nephew Edward was his heir.

Sir Philip erected a tablet in the Church to his "first wife." The inscription is as follows:—"Here resteth the body of Julyan second daughter to James Maynwaring of Croxston in the County of Chester Esq<sup>r</sup> and first wife to Sir Philip Llanden now Knight with whom having lived not full three years she left this earthly tabernacle to live with her immortal spouse Christ Jesus upon y<sup>e</sup> 11th of June 1617. She had by said husband 2 sonnes who both lye buried beside her."

The Ann and Katherine of the first tablet seem to be referred to in the following marriage licences:\*

"Aug. 23, 1616, Christopher Hastings of Croft æt 30 and Katherine Llanden late of Dalbie now of Langton nigh Partney æt 20. Her parents consent. Sept. 25, 1624, Wm. Newstede of South Somercotes and Katherine Hastings of Bilsby widow.

"Nov. 30, 1616, Robert Hastings of Bilsby æt 36 and Anne Llanden of Dalbie. 'Postea revocata hæc licentia quia Dalbie est infra jurisdictionem Decani et Capituli Lincoln.'"

Pecuniary troubles had, however, overtaken the family before the "delinquencies." On May 7th, 1651, Wm. and Edward Llanden put in their petition (now

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\* Gibbons' *Lincoln Marriage Licences*.

unfortunately lost) to the Commissioners appointed to settle the fines and compositions on the estates of the defeated Royalists. At the same time the executors of Sir Thomas Glenham, as executor of Paul Viscount Bayning, begged enquiry into the cause of sequestration of a debt of £1,600 due to the latter "from Wm. Llanden on Dalby Manor long before Llanden's delinquency." Later, Roger Farnoles said that Dalby Manor was leased to him and Lord Bayning for £1,000 by William Llanden, who left £2,000 to Sir T. Glenham, and that he became tenant in 1650 to Lord Bayning. In 1653 Edward Llanden begged examination of his title to Dalby and Dexthorpe settled on him by his uncle in 1633, "but the premises are still detained in sequestration for the delinquency of Wm. Llanden." On September 7th, 1653, Margaret, widow of the late Wm. Llanden, pleaded that her late husband on their marriage in 1642 settled Dalby Manor House and other lands on her after his death. On November 16th Edward Llanden's claim was allowed and the estate discharged, but further enquiries were to be made about the debt of Sir Thomas Glenham.

In 1746 Dexthorpe, together with some 300 acres in Dalby, and the manorial rights were purchased by the trustees of Beverley Minster, to whom they still belong. The estate also includes some land in Partney. For many years the owners of the Dalby lands had no very clearly defined boundaries, but an arrangement was eventually come to whereby the

Beverley Minster trustees took Dexthorpe and the southern portion and the Bournes the centre.

The Rev. Titus Bourne\* (born 1671) came to Dalby about 1720. He was the only son of Timothy, son of John Bourne of Wyersdale. He lived at Orby and Sausthorpe and finally purchased Dalby, and was also Curate of the parish. He died August 31st, 1734, and is buried in the churchyard. His wife was Catherine Wilby of Wrangle, born 1683, died at Dalby, 1743. To them succeeded a son, John Bourne, born 1711, died 1761, buried at Dalby. He married Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall (born 1716, died 1808), and had a family of three sons and one daughter. The eldest, John Bourne, born 1739, succeeded to Dalby and died there 1788. He was twice married, (1) to Sarah Fowler of South Ormsby, and (2) to Elizabeth Fowler of Skendleby Thorpe. By the first he had a family of five sons and three daughters, and by the second two sons. His eldest son, John Bourne, born 1768, a captain in the North Lincoln Militia, succeeded to Dalby and died there 1850. He was twice married, (1) to his cousin Mary Mather, who died 1803, leaving a daughter, and (2) to Mary, sister of the Right Hon. Charles Tennyson d'Eyncourt.

The house in which these four generations of Bournes had lived was burnt down in 1836. It had taken the place of an earlier hall which occupied a

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\* I am indebted for many of these particulars about the Bournes to the Rev. H. J. Bloom. See Appendix.

commanding site on which is now the Shepherd's Cottage. The greater part of the Bourne property in Dalby was purchased in 1856 by J. W. Preston, Esq., who built the present house, almost on the site of the burnt mansion. In 1898 this property was sold to B. C. Garfit, Esq.

*Domesday Book* mentions two Churches in Dalby. It has generally been supposed that one of these was in a neighbouring parish, most likely Dexthorpe. The old Church of Dalby, which was demolished in 1862, contained a Norman Chancel arch. A new Church, after designs by James Fowler, Esq., Louth, was begun in June of the same year and opened for Divine Service by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, October 14th, 1862. The old one had become very dilapidated. It was covered with thatch, and the Church accounts show that this was a constant source of expense. In 1863 the churchyard, which had hitherto been unfenced, was separated off from the rest of the park. The modern Church is serviceable and good, but besides the Llandan tablets contains no features of interest. The bell came from the old one, for which it was purchased in 1848. The plate is of solid silver and very handsome. The flagon, chalice, and paten are all inscribed "Dalby Church Lincolnshire 1772."

The benefice of Dalby is a Perpetual Curacy. The tithes formed part of the endowment of the prebendal stall of Carlton cum Dalby in Lincoln Cathedral, and appear to have done so as far back as the reign of

Edward III.\* They were commuted in 1840 for £230 11s. 5d., and, together with the rent of a small piece of glebe, are now received by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, subject to an annual payment of £30 to the "Curate." Since the consolidation of the benefice with Partney the Commissioners have augmented this by a further payment of £41 per annum, and provided a rectory house. In 1521 William Fleshemonger held this prebend, and it was then worth £14. Since 1874 it has been held, simply as an honorary dignity, by the Rev. H. S. Disbrowe, B.A., Rector of Benington near Boston.

Curates of Dalby in recent years have been :—

.... Titus Bourne, died 1734, aged 63.

1754 Richard Vesey, died 1785, aged 68.

1777 John Basker.

1782 William Tyler, died 1808, aged 59.

1808 John Banks, B.D.

He does not seem to have taken any duty till 1825. His deputies were :—

1808 James Flanner, Rector of Partney, died 1814.

1814 T. H. Rawnsley.

1817 Michael Hare.

1822 Wm. Haye Hett.

1823 Henry Brackenbury, Rector of Scremby.

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\* "Dalby non est taxata quia est portio prebendalis Ecclesiæ de Carleton Kyme in ecclesia Beatæ Mariæ Linc."—*Inquisitiones Nonarum*, A.D. 1342.

At the end of his life he again employed deputies :—

1837 John Tumman.

1839 William Bowerbank.

1841 John Cheales, Vicar of Skendleby.

1842 Thomas Owston, who, however, did not take any duty until September, 1848, when he became Rector of Sutterby, Mr. Cheales continuing to officiate at Dalby. Died 1894, buried at Sutterby. Failing health compelled him to have assistance in the later years of his life.

1887 R. Hurman, Curate of Spilsby.

1888 E. Allanson, Rector of Partney.

1893 C. W. H. Reynolds, Curate of Partney.

1894 G. G. Walker, Rector of Partney.





## APPENDIX.

### A.

Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the Anglo-Saxons*, Book ii.,  
Chapter xvi.

"A certain Abbot and priest of the monastery of Peartaneu, a man of singular veracity, whose name was Deda, in relation to the faith of this province told me that one of the oldest persons had informed him, that he himself had been baptised at noon-day by the Bishop Paulinus, in the presence of King Edwin, with a great number of the people, in the river Trent, near the city, which in the English tongue is called Tiovulfingacestir (Southwell) : and he was wont to describe the person of this same Paulinus, that he was tall of stature, a little stooping, his hair black, his visage meagre, his nose slender and aquiline, his aspect both venerable and majestic."—Bohn's Translation, p. 100.

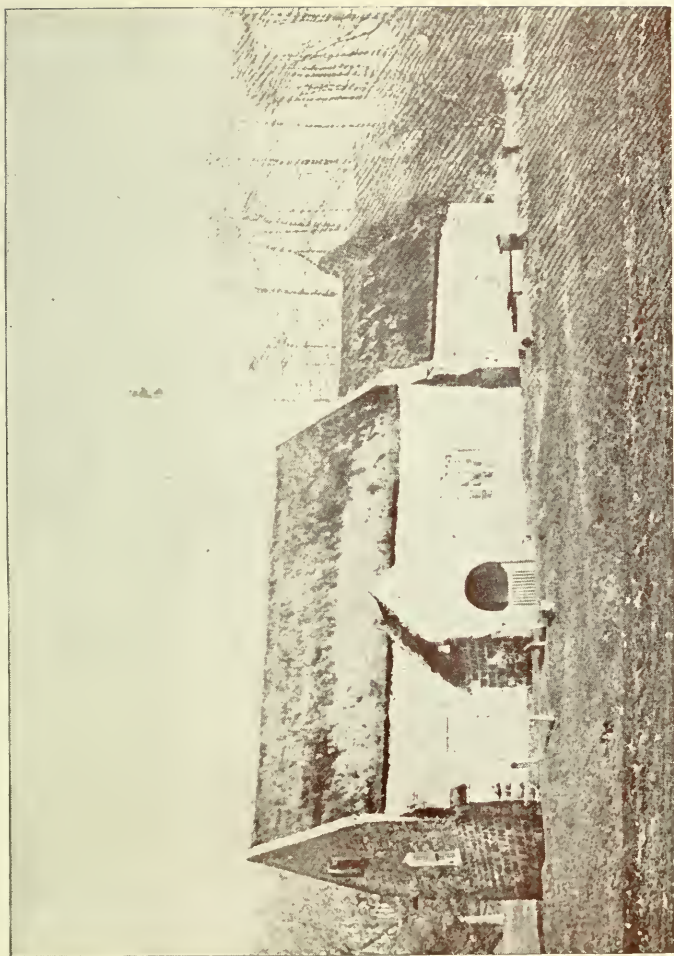
The same : Book iii., Chapter xi.

"There is a noble monastery in the province of Lindsey called Beardeneu \* (Bardney) which that Queen (Osthrida of Mercia) much loved and conferred upon it many honours and ornaments. It was here that she was desirous to lay the venerable bones of her uncle (Oswald of Northumbria). When the wagon in which those bones were carried arrived towards evening at the aforesaid monastery they that were in it refused

---

\* Bishop Tanner, in his "Notitia Monastica," places the foundation of Bardney Abbey before A.D. 697 because this Queen Osthrida was murdered in that year.





DALBY CHURCH BEFORE 1862.



to admit them because though they knew him to be a holy man, yet, as he was originally of another province and had reigned over them as a foreign King, they retained their ancient aversion to him even after death. Thus it came to pass that the relics were left in the open air all that night, with only a large tent spread over them : but the appearance of a heavenly miracle showed with how much reverence they ought to be received by all the faithful : for during that whole night a pillar of light reaching from the wagon up to heaven was seen by almost all the inhabitants of the province of Lindsey. Hereupon in the morning the brethren who had refused it the day before began themselves earnestly to pray that those holy relics, so beloved by God, might be deposited among them. Accordingly the bones being washed were put into a shrine . . . Lastly when the aforesaid Queen afterwards made some stay in that monastery, there came to visit her a certain venerable abbess, who is still living, called Ethelhilda, the sister of the holy men Ethelwind and Aldwin the first of whom was Bishop in the province of Lindsey the other abbot of the monastery of Peartaneu, not far from which was the monastery of Ethelhilda."

—Bohn's Translation, page 126.



## APPENDIX.

## B.

From Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. i., page 630.

“Carta Stephani Regis de Parthenay.”

“Stephanus Rex Angliæ Episcopo Lincolniensi justiciariis Baronibus Vicecomitibus et omnibus ministris et fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis de Linc : salutem. Sciatis me concessisse et confirmasse Deo et Hospitali de Partenay omnes terras et res et donationes quas barones et vavassores et probiliores (? nobiliores) terræ meæ qui terras suas libere habent dederunt vel daturi sunt Deo et eidem Hospitali tam in terris quam in aliis possessionibus vel redditibus vel catellis. Quare volo et præcipio firmiter quod præfatum hospitale et custodes ejus et omnes illic habitantes et ibidem manentes qui secundum . . . vixerint et illic venientes et ibidem morantes et inredeuntes habeant meam pacem firmam ita ne in aliquo disturbentur.”

The same : page 631.

“Hæc est finalis concordia facta in curia domini regis apud Linc : in crastinum animarum anno regni regis Johannis decimo coram Girardo de Caunvill Willielmo de Huntingfield et justiciariis itinerantibus et aliis baronibus domini regis tunc ibi præsentibus inter Osbertum magistrum hospitalis S. Mariæ Magdalenæ de Parthenay petentem et Henricum Bec tenentem de duabus bovatis terræ et uno tofto cum pertinentibus in Gremy et de dimidio bovatae terræ cum pertinentibus in Laisingtorp. Unde recognit . . . Simon fuit inter eos in eadem curia utrum prædictæ duæ bovatae et unum toftum cum pertinentibus in Grenby et dimidiam bovatae terræ cum pertinentibus in Laisingtorp essent libera eleemosina pertinens ad Hospitalem S. Mariæ Magdalenæ de Parthenay an laicum feudum ipsius Henrici. Scilicet quod prædictus magister recognovit totam prædictam terram et toftum cum pertinentibus esse laicum

feudum ipsius Henrici et ea remisit et quietum clamat de se et successoribus suis prædicto Henrico et hæredibus suis in perpetuum. Et pro hac recognitione et quieta clamazione et fine et concordia prædictus Henricus dedit et concessit prædicto magistro et successoribus suis et hospitali S. Mariæ Magdalenæ de Parthenay duas bovatas terræ et unum toftum cum pertinentibus in Laisingtorp scilicet unam bovatom terræ et unum toftum cum pertinentibus quod Rogerus Cocus tenuit et dimidiam bovatom terræ cum pertinentibus quam Alanus Carpenter tenuit et dimidiam bovatom terræ cum pertinentibus quam Robertus Carpenter tenuit præter unum toftum quod pertinet ad illam dimidiam bovatom terræ quam Robertus Carpenter tenuit quæ remanent ipsi Henrico et hæredibus suis quietis de prædicto magistro et successoribus suis in perpetuum ita quod prædictus magister et successores sui tenebunt residuum prædictarum duarum bovatarum terræ cum pertinentibus de ipso Henrico in puram et perpetuam eleemosinam liberum et quietum ab omni seculari servitio et exactione."

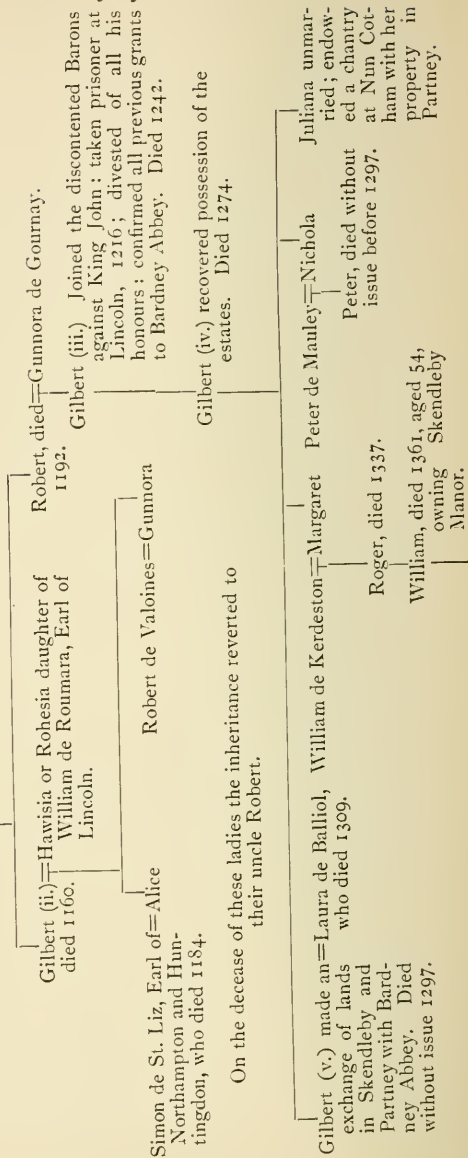


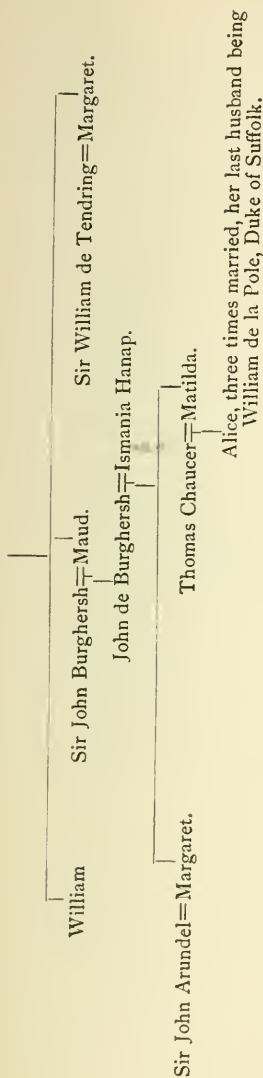
## GENEALOGICAL TABLES.

## I. GAUNT.

Gilbert de Gaunt (i.), to whom was granted by William I. the overlordship of almost all the land in Partney : refounded Bardney Abbey, and gave it a portion of his Partney lands. Died about 1090.

Walter confirmed and augmented his father's grants to Bardney. Died 1138.







Thomas Chaucer,  
died 1434.



Matilda Chaucer,  
died 1436.

IN EWELME CHURCH, OXFORD.

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2. WILLOUGHBY.

Robert de Willoughby= Alice, daughter of John de Orby, who died 1316.

William= Alice, daughter of John Lord Beke, the sister and co-heir of  
Walter Bec, who died 1310.

Robert. Summoned to= Margaret D'Eyncourt.

Parliament as 1st  
Lord Willoughby  
d'Eresby, 1313.  
Died 1316.

John, 2nd Lord, fought at Crecy, 1346: founded Chantry of the Holy Trinity at Spilsby: = Joan de Roseline,  
buried there, 1348. Monument at Spilsby.

John, 3rd Lord, fought at Poitiers, 1356; died 1372. Monument at Spilsby= Cecilia de Ufford.

Robert, 4th Lord. Monument with second wife at= (1) Alice Skipwith, (2) Elizabeth Latimer, (3) Margaret Zouch.  
Spilsby; Brass to 3rd wife. Arms on tower of  
West Keal, also with those of 2nd wife on chan-  
cel of Hogsthorpe. Died 1396.

William, 5th Lord= (1) Lucy Strange (2) Joan, daughter of Thos. Holland, A younger son, ancestor of  
Brass at Spilsby | Earl of Kent, who held Partney during widowhood. Lord Willoughby de Broke.  
Died 1409.

Robert, 6th Lord, fought at Matilda Stanhope.

Harfleur, Agincourt, and  
Vernueil. Died 1452.  
Buried at Mettingham.  
Manors of Partney Thorpe  
and Partney Fothering-  
hay.

Richard Lord Welles=Joan  
and jure uxoris, 7th  
Lord Willoughby, be-  
headed 1470.

William, 10th Lord=Mary de Salinas.

Received Eden-  
ham and Grims-  
thorpe from Hen.  
VII. Died 1527.

2nd son, ancestor of  
Lords Willoughby  
of Parham, now  
extinct.

4th son, ancestor of  
Lord Middleton.

Robert \* Lord Welles and  
Willoughby; beheaded  
soon after his father.

Richard Hastings \* also Lord=Joan, died 1505.  
Welles, and counted as 9th  
Lord Willoughby. Died  
1503.

(1) Charles Brandon, Duke=Catherine, died  
of Suffolk; (2) Richard  
Bertie. 1580; Monu-  
ment at Spilsby

Peregrine Bertie, 12th Lord=Mary, daughter of  
Governor of Berwick,  
where he died 1601. Bur-  
ied at Spilsby; monu-  
ment there.

\* These two having never actually been summoned to  
Parliament as Barons Willoughby d'Eresby are, by  
some authorities, not counted among the number.

Robert, 13th Lord, Lord High Chamberlain of England.  
K.G. 1630. Killed at Edgehill 1642.

Montagu, 14th Lord, 2nd Earl of Lindsey. Died 1666.

Robert, 15th Lord, 3rd Earl of  
Lindsey. Died 1701.

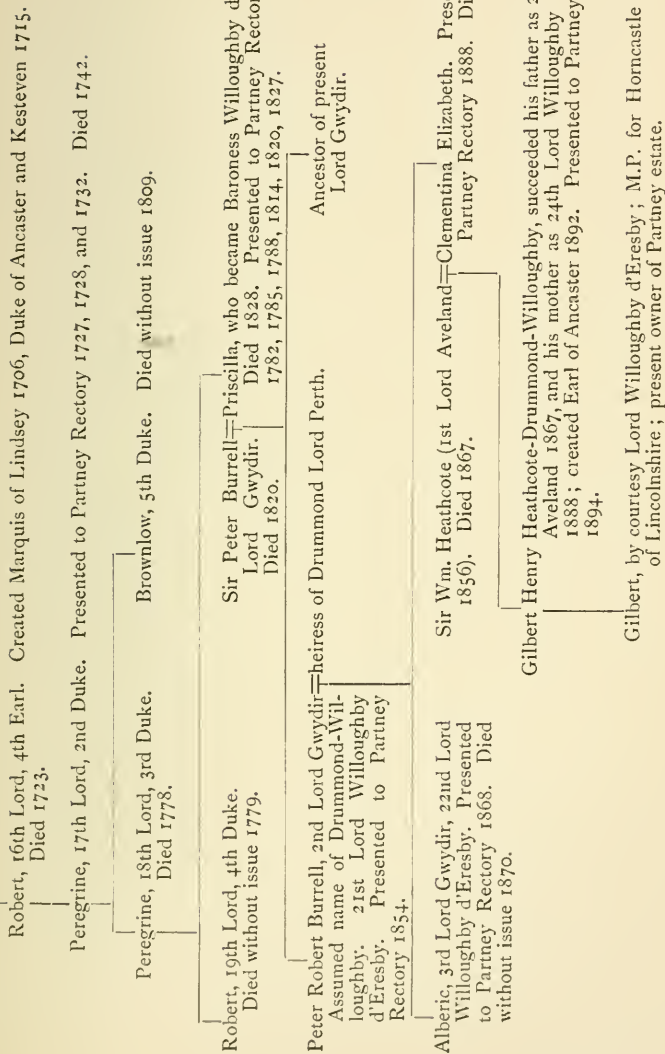
Charles, ancestor of present  
Earl of Lindsey.

James, ancestor of present  
Earl of Abingdon.

Thomas.

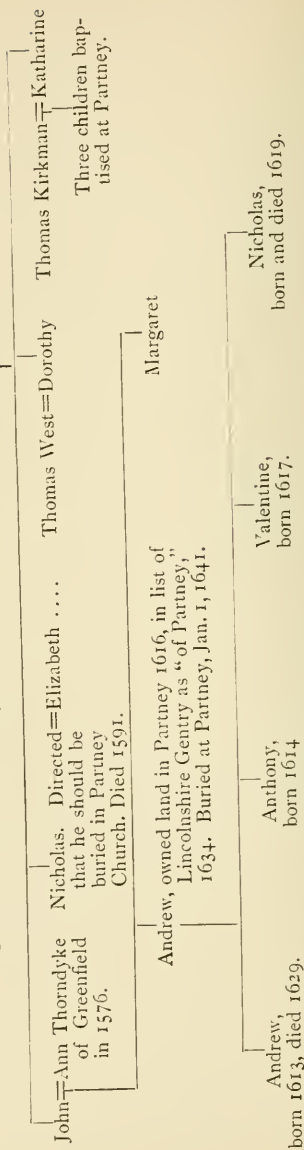
Robert=Cicely, sister of Lord Welles.

Christopher, claimed title after attainder of  
Lord Welles. Died 1499.



## 3. ORMSBY.

John Ormsby, a freeholder in 1561 as John Dicconson : " of Partney," = Katherine, heiress of Thomas Bryne in the Herald's Visitation of 1562. Died 1577. Called in his will " John Ormsby otherwise Dicconson," directed that he should be buried in Partney Church.



4. THORY.

Thomas Thory. Buried in Ingoldmells Church—Elizabeth . . .

Thomas. Died 1616, —Alice . . . of Halton  
possessing 108 acres  
of land in Ingold-  
mells, Addlethorpe,  
and Winthorpe.\*

William, "of Winthorpe"—Bridget Massingberd at  
1612, "of Ingoldmells"  
1634, "of Partney" 1643  
Died 1644.

Thomas, possessed in Ingoldmells, Addlethorpe, and Winthorpe—Jane . . . †

103 acres of land, "there were also 5 acres belonging to  
William Thory which Thomas was not found heir of,"\*  
"Died about Easter, 1645." Estates fined £186 in 1648,  
subsequently reduced to £90 on petition of Captain George  
Rugeley, who married his widow.‡

Anthony Todd—Katharine.

Thory—Mary . . .

William Katharine

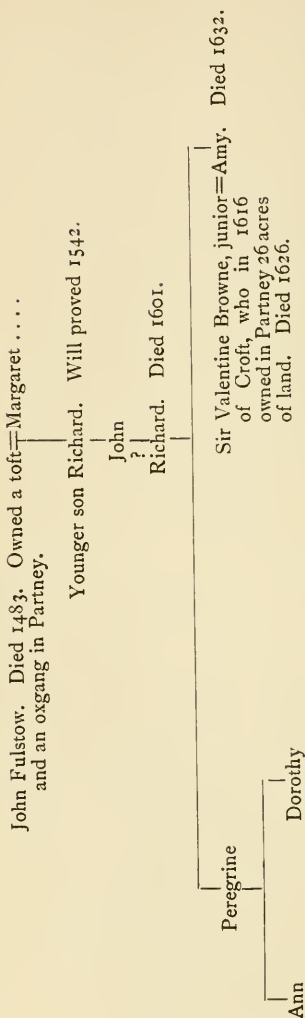
John Rugeley—Bridget.§ Died 1658, aged 21.

\* *Ingoldmells Court Rolls.*

† Brass in Partney Church.  
§ Brass in Halton Church.

‡ *Royalist Composition Papers.*

## 5. FULSTOW.\*

\* From conjectural pedigree by Rev. A. R. Maddison, *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. v., p. 32.

## 6. MADDISON.\*

George Maddison, 8th in descent from Sir Edward Maddison—Mary Baugh. of Fonaby and his wife Anne Roper. Colonel 4th Foot, wounded at Bunker's Hill, 1775. Died 1807.

John Thomas, also Colonel—Matilda MacNeile. 4th Foot; present at the battle of Brandywine 1777. Died 1837.

George, born 1762; entered the army 1779—Mary Alington of Served in Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope. Swinhope, who died and Walcheren. Colonel 65th Foot at Partney 1850; 1805, exchanged to 77th Foot; retired buried at Halton. 1809. Purchased house and lands in Partney 1812. Died 1816; buried at Hertingfordbury.

George Wilson, born 1797. Succeeded his father—Frances Elizabeth, 2nd daughter at Partney 1816, and his uncle at Steeping of Sir Alan Belingham, 1825. 1837. J.P. Died at Partney 1888. Died at Partney 1886.

George Edward, born 1826, died at sea 1845.

Ralph, born 1828, lost at sea off Newfoundland 1854.

Henry, born 1829, succeeded his father's estates 1888. Lord of the Manor of Kelsey Hall in Great Steeping.

2 sons

2 daughters

\* I am indebted for some of these particulars to F. A. Crisp, Esq.

## 7. LLANDEN.

William Llanden. Died 1621. Monument at Dalby=Alice . . .

William=Margaret "of Dalby" Abbot of 1634. Died London, July, 1653* widow, 1642.	Thomas Benedict	Philip, Knighted. "of Hundleby" 1634.	(1) Julian Mainwaring, who died in 1617; (2) ?	Elinor and Katharine who died very young.	Robert Hastings=Ann of Eilsby, 1616.
		?			(1) Christopher Hastings=Katharine. of Croft 1613; (2) Wm. Newsteade of S. Som- cotes 1624.
		Edward heir of Dalby.			

\* There still lives a dim tradition that a squire of Dalby once died heavily in debt and was buried hastily at midnight.



# 8. BOURNE.

Rev. Titus Bourne, born 1671, only son of Timothy=Catherine Wilby of Wrangle.  
son of John Bourne of Wyersdale. Lived at  
Orby and Sausthorpe, and finally purchased  
Dalby, where he died Aug. 31, 1734.

John, born 1711, died 1761=Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall.  
Born 1716, died 1808.

John, born 1739, died 1788.	John, born 1711, died 1761=Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall. Born 1716, died 1808.	John, born 1711, died 1761=Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall. Born 1716, died 1808.
John, born 1739, died 1788.	John, born 1711, died 1761=Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall. Born 1716, died 1808.	John, born 1711, died 1761=Elizabeth Dobbs of Bucknall. Born 1716, died 1808.

John, born 1768, died 1850. Captain North Lincoln Militia.

Mary,  
born 1802,  
died 1805.

Robert, Captain in "the=Jane Brabins.  
Queen's Bays." Died  
without issue 1849.

George Fowler,  
born 1778,  
died unm. 1795.

ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF FAMILIES CONNECTED  
WITH PARTNEY AND DALBY.

de Gaunt : Barry of 6, or and azure, a bend gules.

de Kerdeston : Gules, a saltire engrailed argent.

Bardney Abbey : Sable, a crozier between 2 crowns towards the chief, being run through an armulet towards the top, and a snake enwrapped at the bottom, argent. Also : a cross patée between 4 lions ; the arms of Oswald, King of Northumbria, in whose honour the Abbey was dedicated.

Orby : Ermine, 5 chevronelles gules on a canton of the second a lion passant.

Bec : Gules, a cross scarcely argent.

Willoughby : Or, fretty azure.

Welles : Or, a lion rampant double queued sable.

Bertie : Or, 3 battering rams proper, armed and ringed gules in pale barways.

Walgrave : Party per pale argent and gules.

Wray : Azure, on a chief or 3 martlets gules. Crest : on a wreath an ostrich holding a horseshoe. Motto : Et juste et Vray.

Browne : Argent, 3 martlets in pale sable between 2 flanches of the second, each charged with a lion passant gardant of the first, armed and langued gules. Crest : on a wreath a dragon's head coupé erect argent. Motto : Loyal en tout.

Ormsby : Gules, a bend between 6 crosses crosslets or, a mullet for a difference.

Thory : Argent, on a bend sable 3 maunches of the first.

Maddison : Argent, 2 battle-axes in saltire sable. Crest : a cubit arm in armour proper grasping a battle-axe argent. Motto : Væ timido.

Llanden : Gules, a lion rampant or, a canton ermine and erminois.

Bourne : Argent, a chevron cottised gules between 3 lions rampant sable.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

## A.

St. Nicholas, see pages 12 and 13.



THE CONSECRATION OF ST. NICHOLAS.

From a boss in the crypt of the Church of St. Nicholas,  
Aberdeen.

*(By kind permission of the Rev. Dr. Cooper).*

## B.

The following "fine" was accidentally omitted from its proper place on page 82.

1240 August 26th. Simon Est tenant of 3 parts of a bovaté of land in Partenay owned the said land except an acre of meadow which Simon de Dauby holds to be the right of Robert son of Baldrick and for this Robert granted to Simon all the said land. To have and to hold all his life, of the said Robert and his heirs, rendering 3s. 4d. by the year and doing foreign service. And after the decease of Simon the said land except the said acre of meadow shall revert to Robert and his heirs for ever.—*Lincoln Final Concords*, p. 322.

## C.

Pp. 8 and 158, Field Names. "Hardings" is, I have no doubt, the correct spelling; not Arden's. This was the last of the open fields in Partney. The present road was not made and fenced until after the opening of Firsby Station, the traffic to and from which required it. Previously there were gates across the lane and the Hardings, some 15 acres of meadow, might be grazed by anyone from Michaelmas to Lady Day.

## D.

"April 2, 1722. They began to try for coals by boring on the west side of Blue Hill near the road to Partney, and bored 27 yards. N.B.—It is the general opinion that it was mismanaged by the ignorance of the undertaker."—*Spilsby Parish Register*.

## E.

"A fossil tooth weighing two pounds three ounces was dug up in the gravel pits near Partney Mill, February 14th, 1822. It was embedded in the gravel about 12 feet below the surface of the ground, and is supposed to have been one of the grinders of a hippopotamus, elephant, or some other animal of large size."—Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, Appendix, p. 20. The tooth is now in the possession of Henry Maddison, Esq., at Partney Hall. Many similar remains have been found in these pits from time to time.

## F.

In 1838 the land in the parish was cultivated as follows :—

	A.	R.	P.
Pasture . . . .	643	0	35
Arable . . . .	262	1	22
Wood . . . .	8	2	36
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	914	1	13
Glebe . . . .	5	2	29
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	920	0	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## G.

"Friday, August 6th, 1880. From about 3 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, tremendously heavy rain—accompanied with lightning and thunder—fell in Partney and Dalby. It *was said* that a waterspout burst on the hillside between Dalby and Skendleby; but be that as it may, by half-past 4 the brook between Partney and Dalby was so swollen by the great and sudden downpour that it flooded the road between Partney and Dalby to a great width and depth; also the road leading to the Grange, and that to the Monks' Lane, rendering them all impassable: such a thing as the oldest inhabitant had never seen nor even heard of. Mrs. Rymer, who lived near the Grange, was to have been buried at half-past three, but the corpse could not be got to the Church until 7, and then it was brought through the water in a cart."—J. W. B.

## H.

THE ROUT YARD.—Partney School is said to be on the site of the old rout yard. The following account of its customs was given me by a very old man at Huttoft in 1892, since deceased. "The Pinder, on finding a stray animal, put it into the pound or pinfold, where he kept it for 3 sunsets and 3 sunrisings. If unclaimed he then took it to the rout yard, the keeper of which paid him for his labour and out-of-pocket expenses. In the rout yard the animal might remain for a year and a day. If then unclaimed it was sold to pay expenses. The rout yard at Huttoft was a paddock with frontage to the road, and while there the animal was marked with a large red cross on both haunches. The owner of that particular paddock could not refuse to take the animal in: he paid the Pinder and recovered his expenses from the owner when found."\*

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\* See also "Lincolnshire Notes & Queries," Vol. i., p. 189.

## J.

It is a tradition in the parish that a squire of Dalby was once buried at midnight to avoid, in some way not explained, certain claims of his creditors on his estate. This is the only memory of William or Edward Llanden that I have found preserved.

## K.

Built into one of the south buttresses of Dalby Church is an ancient stone with the following inscription :—

WILLIAM CALDER . . . HERE LYETH  
INTUMBED NOW OF LATE WHO  
YELDED UP HIS CORPES TO DEATH  
BY HIS APPOINTED FAIT APRILL  
7 THIS GRAVE HE HAD OF RIGHT  
AN DO 1625.



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- Lincolnshire Church Furniture : E. Peacock, 1866.
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- Valor Ecclesiasticus, Henrici VIII. Rolls Series.
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- Placita de quo Warranto. Testa de Nevill. Rolls Series.
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- Harleian Charters. Lay Subsidy Rolls.
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- Royalist Composition Papers.
- Notes on Lincolnshire Churches : Gervase Holles.
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Early Lincoln Wills : Gibbons.

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Visitation of the County of Lincoln 1562-4 and 1592 :

W. C. Metcalfe.

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History of Spilsby : Rev. H. C. Smith, 1892.

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History of Scrivelsby : Rev. Canon Lodge, 1894.

Five Generations of a Loyal House : Lady G. Bertie, 1845.

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Gomme.

Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire : A. Young, 1798.

Life of Johnson : Boswell.

Dr. Johnson and his Friends : Dr. G. Birkbeck Hill.

Epidemics in Britain : Dr. C. Creighton.

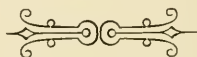
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Athenæ Oxonienses : Anthony à Wood.







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